



Check out the Saturday, Dec. 1 events on Lowell Cable Channel 20 on the following dates: Wednesday, Dec. 5 at 3 p.m.; Thursday, Dec. 6 at 4 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 7 at 9 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 8 at 10 a.m.

LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL BAND CONCERT The Lowell High School band concert will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 5 at 7 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center at the high school. The public is welcome.

ATTENTION LOWELL SENIOR PARENTS

Lowell Senior Class of 2002 trip is scheduled for May 23. Checks may be made in full (\$100) or in installments on Thursday, Dec. 6 or 7 during lunch periods. Make checks payable to Lowell Senior Parents or mail to Carol Drenth,



10200 Bennett, Lowell. May also pay during Feb. and March.

FARM PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

The Wittenbach Center will continue its farm photo display on Dec. 10 from 4-8 p.m. Any questions, call Tammy at 987-1002.

5-5 YMCA BASKETBALL LEAGUE

The YMCA is now accepting team registrations for its winter basketball league starting Tuesday, Jan. 15. Stop in or call the YMCA at 897-8445 to sign up today.

YMCA REFEREES NEEDED

If you would be interested in being a referee for the YMCA winter basketball league, call Dan at 897-8445 ext. 705 for more information.

LOWELL AREA FIRE DEPARTMENT BLOOD DRIVE

The Lowell Area Fire Department is sponsoring a blood drive for the Grand Valley Blood Program on Wednesday, Dec. 5 from 2-7 p.m. at the Look Memorial Fire Station located at 315 S. Hudson.

LOWELL SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB

It is not too late to sign up for discount option packages for Cannonsburg Ski Area. Elementary contact: Heather Kohtz 897-4125 ext. 440 or hkohtz@lowellk12.mi.us; middle and high school contact: Kathy Talus 897-4125 or ktalus@lowellk12.mi.us

NATURE HOLIDAY CRAFT WORKSHOP

The craft workshop will be held at the Wittenbach Center on Saturday, Dec. 8 from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$20; payment and registration required in advance. Call 987-1002.

ROGUE RIVER ARTISANS SHOW AND SALE

The 19th annual Rogue River Artisans Show will take place at Lowell High School (formerly at Deer Run) on Saturday, Dec. 8 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. At least 75 designers/ artists will be selling specialty items; a light breakfast and lunch will be available as well. \$1 admission is charged at the door with all proceeds going to the 2003 Lowell High School class.

SADD COLLECTING FOODS FOR NEEDY

The SADD club from Lowell High School will be going door-to-door collecting non-perishable foods on Tuesday, Dec. 12 starting at 6:30 p.m. in the area of the Rollaway Family Fun Center and donating them to Flat River Outreach Ministries. Also foods may be dropped off at the Fun Center.

Parading in the Christmas Season

Santa was the celebrated guest at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce annual Christmas parade. Santa and his sleigh was one of roughly 60 entries in this year's parade. Float winners were Brenda's Hair Design (1st), \$150; St. Patrick Camp Fire Club (2nd) \$100; and Boot Scoot-N-Rider's (3rd), \$75. Earning honorable mention status were the Lowell YMCA Ladies Beginners Fitness Class; Lowell Area Historical Museum and the Christian Life Center.

Township residents not pleased with what an early '70s easement purchase agreement will bring

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

What local power companies call essential public service, area Vergennes Township residents view as a threat to rural space and its land's integrity.

Old antiquated poles, 69,000 volt lines and insulators currently used by Lowell Light and Power need to be upgraded to ensure ample voltage is available to serve its customers.

The proposal is an addition of transmission lines from the Vergennes/Marquette 138,000 volt line to a Lowell Light & Power line north of Foreman.

Construction of the transmission lines and Bowes Road substation, while ensuring proper voltage, will be costly. The cost to LL&P will be approximately \$4 million. The Lowell utility company currently pays Wolverine roughly \$13,000 a month to transfer the power from Consumers Power to LL&P. That cost will be eliminated once the lines and substation are constructed.

Many residents affected by the proposal have turned to Vergennes Township for help. "This is not a township matter. This is between Consumers Power and the residents," said Vergennes Township clerk, Mari Stone. "Many residents are concerned that their property backs up to the easement (school property), yet they are in jeopardy of losing some trees."

Ernie Sagraska, Consumers Power area manager, said the company is holding conversations with the school in hopes of running the lines further east onto the school property and thus having less or no impact on the residential properties affected.

While the new line may may not have a direct impact on Vergennes' residents, the line will secure proper voltage for the Englehardt Library, restaurants and doctors' offices. "Because of that, it will have an indirect impact on all residents," Sagraska said.

Brian Ricksgers, township resident, said the construction of the transmission line will have a direct impact on him. "Changing the landscape impacts residents' lives. It will destroy our open space and the natural integrity of our land," he said. "I also have environmental, stray voltage and lightning concerns."

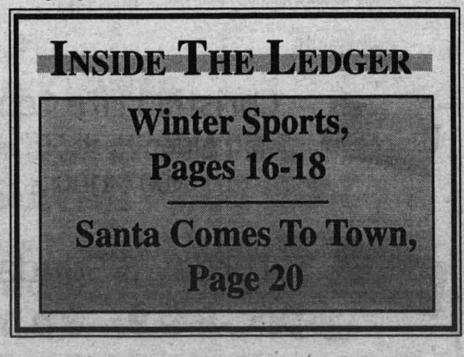
In the early '70s, Consumers Power purchased easement rights for the disputed five-six-mile stretch from the land owners. Subsequently, homes have been built in the area.

The route selected was one of three considered for the transmission line. Easements for the other two routes considered have not been purchased. "Securing easement rights would be costly and time-consuming," Sagraska explained.

While some latitude exists as to how much land will be cleared, the route used is no longer in question.

"The decision as to what is cleared will be made on a case to case basis," Sagraska said. "There are sizeable trees out there."

Consumers Power representatives met with the Vergennes Township Board in September to inform it of the proposed construction. The company has slated to begin construction this spring with the completion date scheduled for fall.





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OBITUARIES

Barnes, aged 48. of Lowell, Church.

BARNES - James Edward KING - Roy Howard King. aged 91, of Boston Township. passed away November 28. formerly of Battle Creek. 2001. He was preceded in passed away November 28. death by his father Robert. 2001, in Lowell. He was born brothers Bruce and Larry. Jim November 5, 1910. in Homer. is survived by his mother Mich., the son of Albert and Evelvn of Lowell; brothers Ida S. (Pomroy) King. He Bobof Belding, David (Jayne) loved the outdoors and enof Lowell, Douglas (Sue) of. joyed raising his roses. He VA: several nieces and neph- was a WWII veteran of the ews. Funeral services were Army. He is survived by his held Saturday at the First wife of 33 years. Catherine United Methodist Church of King of Boston Twp.; step-Lowell, Rev. Gordie Barry, sons David (Jackie) Kilbourn officiating. Interment of Boston Twp., Jerry Oakwood Cemetery. Memo- Kilbourn of Boston Twp. and rial contributions may be made Kenneth Kilbourn of to the First United Methodist Marshall; step-daughters Barbara Baxter of Boston Twp. and Donna Shea of Battle Creek: brother Louis King of

Wednesday at the Floral Lawn Grand Rapids, MI 49503. Memorial Gardens with Rev. Stanley Day officiating.

RIGGS - Elois E. Riggs, aged be with the Lord on Monday, 75. of Lowell, died Friday. November 26, 2001. He was a November 30, 2001. She was veteran of the Vietnam War, preceded in death by her hus- serving in the Air Force in band Walter, grandson Keith Korea. Surviving are his wife Riggs, and great-grandson Mary; children Chris Wolfe, Jared Rodriguez. She is sur- Stephanie Wolfe: step-daughvived by her children Darlene ters Barb Kole, Chris Carter, White of Kentwood, Larry Steve and Debbie Burrows; children and 12 great-grand- mation has taken place. Prichildren. Funeral services vate services will be held.

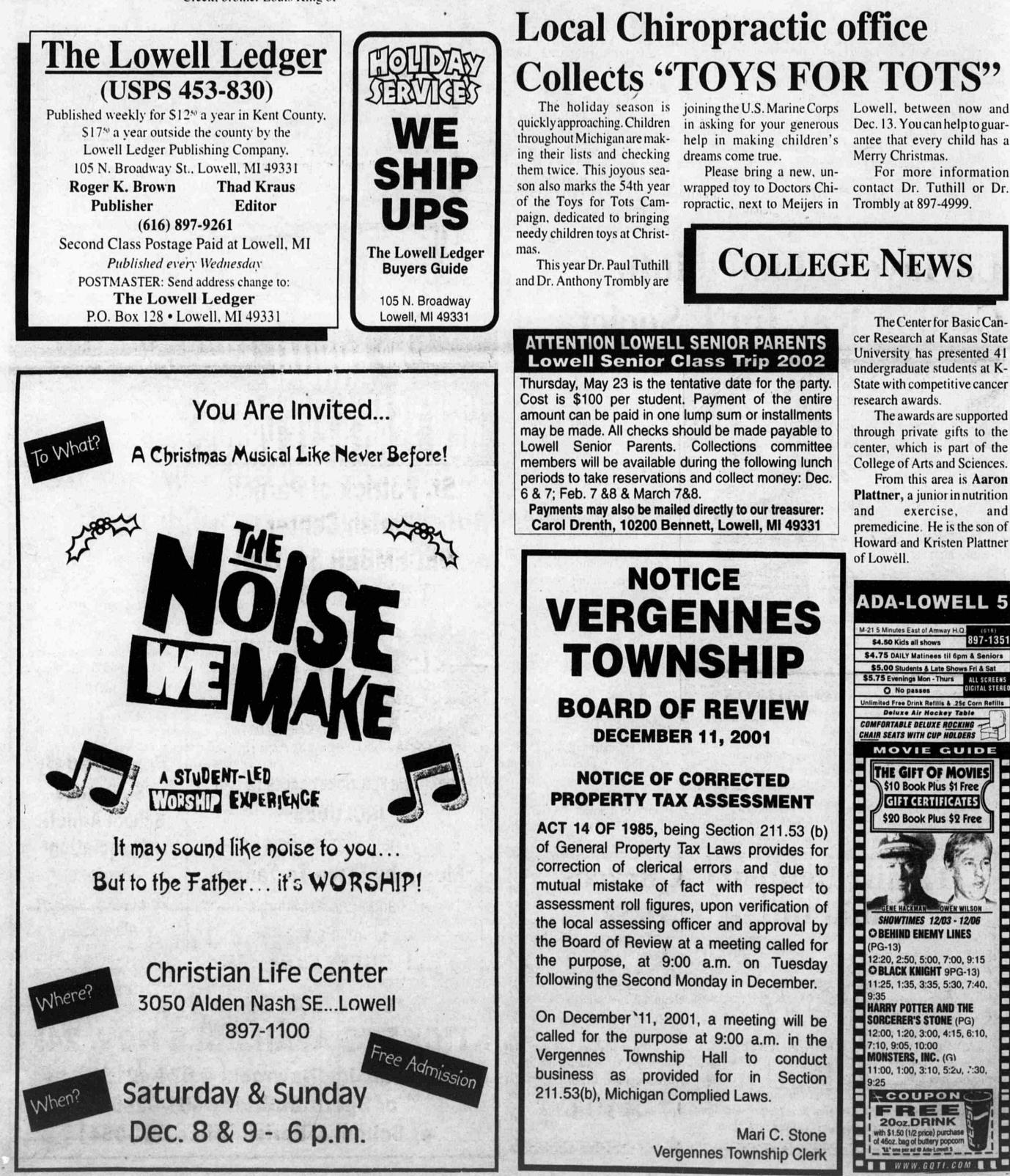
Battle Creek: sister Bernice were held Monday at O'Brien-Chamberlin of Homer; many Eggebeen-Gerst Chapel, Dale grandchildren, great-grand- Fegel, officiating. Interment children and several nieces Chapel Hill Memorial Garand nephews. Cremation has dens. Memorial contributions taken place and there will be a may be made to Hospice of memorial service held Michigan, 1260 Ekhart NE

WOLFE - Chris Gene Wolfe. aged 45, of Wyoming, went to (Dale) Fegel, Eugene Riggs Stacey Seeley; father Bob all of Lowell, Diana (Jim) Wolfe; brothers Scott Wolfe, Riggs of Sparta; seven grand- sister Vicki and Dale Lee. Cre-



The Friends of the Englehardt Library will host a holiday tea at 1:30 p.m. on Friday. Dec. 21 in the library's community room. This program for adults features Tom and Cherie Hagen, popular multitalented musicians. Guests may bring a favorite teacup, and prizes will be given for the most unique cups.

The husband and wife team have been performing together for 19 years; many of those years were at the Am-



way Grand Plaza Hotel back-

ing up Tootsie VanKelly and other performers. Recently, they have performed at Noto's Restaurant, the BOB and on the Grand Lady Riverboat in Grandville. Tom plays the piano, gui-

tar, clarinet and other instruments while Cherie plays bass, drums and guitar.

For more information about the holiday tea, call 897-9596.

antee that every child has a Merry Christmas. For more information

ropractic, next to Meijers in Trombly at 897-4999.

The Center for Basic Cancer Research at Kansas State University has presented 41 undergraduate students at K-State with competitive cancer research awards. The awards are supported through private gifts to the center, which is part of the College of Arts and Sciences. From this area is Aaron Plattner, a junior in nutrition and exercise, and premedicine. He is the son of Howard and Kristen Plattner of Lowell. **ADA-LOWELL 5** M-21 5 Minutes East of Amway H.Q. (616) 897-135 \$4.50 Kids all shows \$4.75 DAILY Matinees til 6pm & Senior \$5.00 Students & Late Shows Fri & Sat \$5.75 Evenings Mon - Thurs All Sofiet O No pass mited Free Drink Refills & .25¢ Corn Ref Deluxe Air Hockey Table OMFORTABLE DELUXE ROCKING HAIR SEATS WITH CUP HOLDERS MOVIE GUIDE THE GIFT OF MOVIES \$10 Book Plus \$1 Free GIFT CERTIFICATES \$20 Book Plus \$2 Free SHOWTIMES 12/03 - 12/06 **OBEHIND ENEMY LINES** 12:20, 2:50, 5:00, 7:00, 9:15 OBLACK KNIGHT 9PG-13) 11:25, 1:35, 3:35, 5:30, 7:40 HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE (PG) 12:00, 1:20, 3:00, 4:15, 6:10, 7:10, 9:05, 10:00 MONSTERS, INC. (G) 11:00, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, + COUPON FREE 20oz.DRINK "IL" one per ad @ Ada-Lowell 5 📟 📕 🦉 WWW.GQTI.COM 📲 🌉

City extends collection of school summer taxes

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell Planning Commission chairman, Jim Hall was sure it's been longer than 15 years that the city has agreed to collect summer taxes for the Lowell School District.

The Lowell City Council extended the length of time by a year when it passed a resolution Monday night to collect the taxes.

The Lowell Board of Education requested that the city of Lowell collect the district's summer taxes levied upon property located within the boundaries of the city.

As part of a continuing resolution, the city collects Lowell Area Schools' taxes at no fee but is able to keep the interest earned during the bank deposit before distributing these monies.

In other action:

• The city approved the final amended agreement for the Property Tax Adminis tration System's (PTAS) upgrade project.

meeting, the city council approved the upgrade of the will be divided between the PTAS tax administration sys- city of Lowell and the towntem, which handles the as- ships of Vergennes and Lowsessing and treasurer functions 'ell for Kent County.

The upgraded system is the "best of class" software for tax administration and eliminates "double entry" performed by the local assessor and the Bureau of Equalization for reconciliation.

Lowell city manager, Dave Pasquale told the council the final amended agreement contained several minor changes. He also noted that city attorney, Richard Wendt cil. read over and approved of the changes.

· A reimbursement resolution related to the purchase of a new pumper fire truck was approved by the Lowell City Council.

purchase of the tanker fire for the move and the housetruck from Spencer Manufac- moving requirements adopted turing at a cost of \$283,415 by the city earlier in the year. back in October.

A \$100,000 grant from the Pasquale said it would have Lowell Area Community cost the city \$3-\$4,000 to have Fund (Englehardt) was re- the housed razed. At an April 24, 2000, ceived toward the purchase.

The balance (\$185,000)

The resolution allows for the city to finance a portion of the purchase price at a tax exempt installment purchase agreement during the time the truck is delivered

The city will solicit proposals from the local financial institutions.

• A bid of \$1,000 for the house at 504 E. Main Street was accepted by the city coun-

The bid, the only one received by the city, was forwarded by Roger Cahoon. The \$1,000 bid was the minimum acceptable bid.

Cahoon will be asked to move the house by May 30, 2002. He will be expected to The council approved the meet all permit requirements City manager, Dave

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Santa Claus

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Per

LaHaye inducted into **Golden Key Int'l. Society**



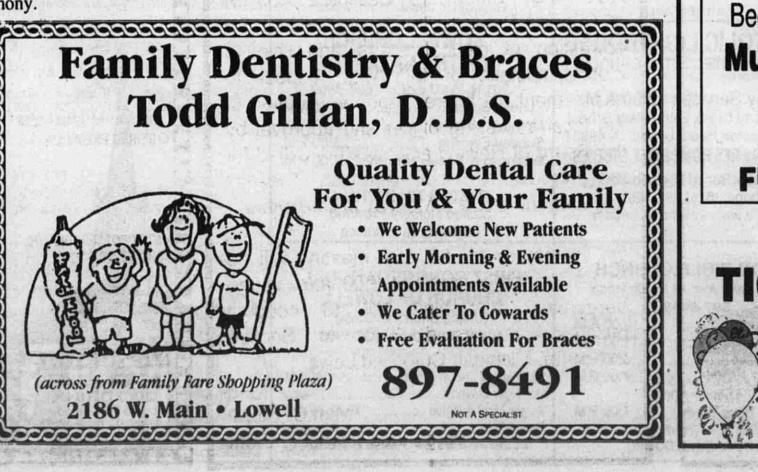
Elizabeth. Laura Key International Honour Golden Key," said Kali Society and was individually Boatright, Golden Key assishonored during a campus cer- tant executive director. "Our

members are inspired and motivated by the challenge not only to be recognized for their outstanding accomplishments but also to make a positive impact on our world through the Society's commitment to service."

Golden Key International Honour Society is a nonprofit, academic honors organization that provides academic recognition, leadership opportunities, community service, career networking and schol-

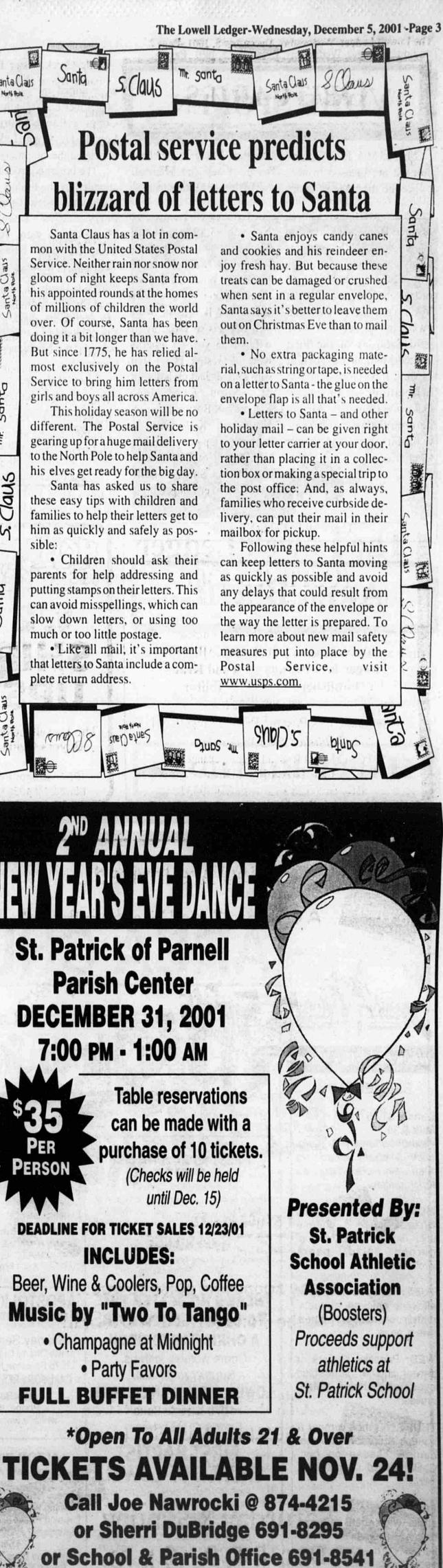
Membership into the Society is by invitation only to the top 15 percent of juniors and seniors in all fields of

LaHaye is a junior at Western Michigan University majoring in Food Marketing. She is the daughter of Michael and Marsha LaHaye of Lowell.



emony.

"It is only fitting that a LaHaye of Lowell has ac- high academic achiever like cepted membership in Golden Laura be recognized by



VOWS SPOKEN

nounce the marriage of their both of the San Francisco area,

Mr. and Mrs. John Robert daughter. Tracy to Michael Timpson are pleased to an- Toschi. Tracy and Michael.



Tracy and Michael Toschi

AREA BIRTH

excited to welcome home his measured 21 inches long. new sister, Layna Marie, born Saturday, November 17, and Becky Yeiter of Wayland.

Big brother. Payden is 2001. She weighed 8 lbs. and

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

DEC. 6: Katie Blough, DEC. 9: Allen Metternick, DEC. 11: Blanche Smith, Kristopher Vezino, Phil Sara Triplett, Essie Baird, Dave Rhodes, Kathryn Doyle, Seese, Maria Blough Chris- Alison Nugent, Ben Nugent, topher DeBold, Marc Wernet. Deb Schuitema DEC. 7: Jennifer Berry. DEC. 8: Mike Cummings.

Heim, Barbara Decker.

were united in marriage on September 1, 2001 at the First Congregational Church of Lowell. Dr. Roger LaWarre officiated the ceremony.

The bride and groom were attended by the bride's sister and brother-in-law, Teresa and Beachum. Perry Flower girls were Jordyn Timpson and Elizabeth Timpson, both nieces of the oride.

The bride, a high-technology marketing professional, is a graduate of Lowell High School and Michigan State University.

The groom, a designer and owner of a fine Italian footwear and accessory company with headquarters in Northern California, is a graduate of San Jose State College.

The couple honeymooned in Italy. They will reside in the San Francisco Bay area.

Grandparents are Terry and Charlene Yeiter of Saranac and Don and Pam Vandermeer of Caledonia. Great-grandparents are Nola Meyers of Saranac, Cora Yeiter of Lowell. Dorothy Vandermeer of Grand Rapids and Howard and Proud parents are Bliss Shirley Jousma of Bradington. Florida

Lois Elliot. DEC. 12: Brad Briggs, Joyce DEC. 10: Bill Fluger, Evelyn Stormzand, Matt Newhouse, Sally Hacker.

Of Faith

Father George Fekete St. Mary Church

Last Sunday, Dec. 2, we began the season of Advent to prepare ourselves to celebrate again Jesus' first coming and to prepare ourselves for Jesus' second coming at the end of time. It is a period of devout and joyful expectation. The Gospel for the First Sunday of Advent is taken from the Gospel of St. Matthew 24:37-44.

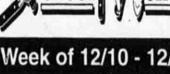
In this passage St. Matthew emphasizes two important points: The first point is that no one knows when the Son of Man will return, i. e., the second coming of Jesus, at the end of time; the second point is that since we do not know when the Son of Man will return, our basic attitude in life must be that of constant watchfulness. St. Matthew supports these points with examples.

The first example is from the Old Testament account of Noah and the flood. "In the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking. marrying and being married right up to the day Noah entered the ark. They were totally unconcerned until the flood came and destroyed them" (vs. 38-39). The tragedy is that, except for Noah and his family, the people were "totally unconcerned" about God and His ways. They were thus not prepared for the flood so they brought about their own demise.

St. Matthew also brings out that along with the unexpectedness of the coming of the Son of Man is judgment. "Two men will be out in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal; one will be taken and one will be left" (vs. 40-41). So some people will be taken into God's Kingdom and some will not. Therefore the only correct attitude for the Christian is to be constantly prepared by staying awake. "Stay awake, therefore! You cannot know the day your Lord is coming at the time you least



0 - 12/14 TARY jelly sand-	Che Com	Us In Worship	CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER
salad are daily as Dunkers & cheese Q on bun, , pears	FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 Worship Sundays	EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH 10501 Settlewood • Ph. 897-7185 Sunday School	(Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Pastor Jonathan Walker, Youth Pastor Jason Grear, Children & Young Adults SUNDAYS: Worship: 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. WEDNESDAYS: Family Night: (For All Ages) 7 p.m. Generation Jacob Youth: 7 p.m.
w/cheese nuggets, w apples, lippers or crambled e, potato w/meat &	THERE'S NO BETTER TIME TO BE AFFILIATED WITH A CHRISTIAN CHURCH Come worship with us. SUNDAY AT 11 A.M. LOWELL WESLEYAN CHURCH 1070 Lincoln Lake '/2 mile north of Main Street.	APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH Sunday Services 10:00 A.M. at the Cherry Creek Elementary School 12675 Foreman Road, Lowell, MI 49331 CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 897-1267 website www.aplighthouse.com	LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 201 N. Washington • 897-8800 Sunday School
ad or hot on bun, getables, cheese sauce or c, whole ic toast,	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org Rev. Burland Margesson & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor Sun: Worship Service9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour	ALTON BIBLE CHURCH Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648 Sunday School	FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906 Worship and Church School



ELEME

Lunch: \$1.45 Milk \$.30 Peanut butter wich & chef also availab lunch options.

MON: Ita w/meat sauc stick or pork I garden sa w/cherries.

TUES: Crispi stick or chick dinner roll, rai sweet peas.

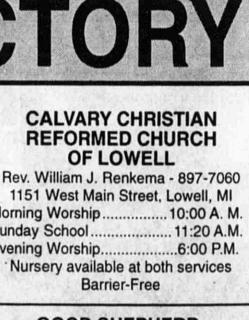
WED: Pancak cereal choice eggs, juice cl smiles.

THURS: Nach cheese & corr ham & chee Calif. blend iello.

FRI: Mozzar sticks w/spagh chicken drun kernel corn, peach crisp!

expect" (vs. 42-43). Jesus means being spiritually awake and prepared for His second coming. Now we do know that the second coming of Jesus is also very personal. We do know the time when that will be: it will be the day of our death. Scripture also tells us it will be a day of judgment for each of us (See Ro. 2:1-11, 14: 10-12).

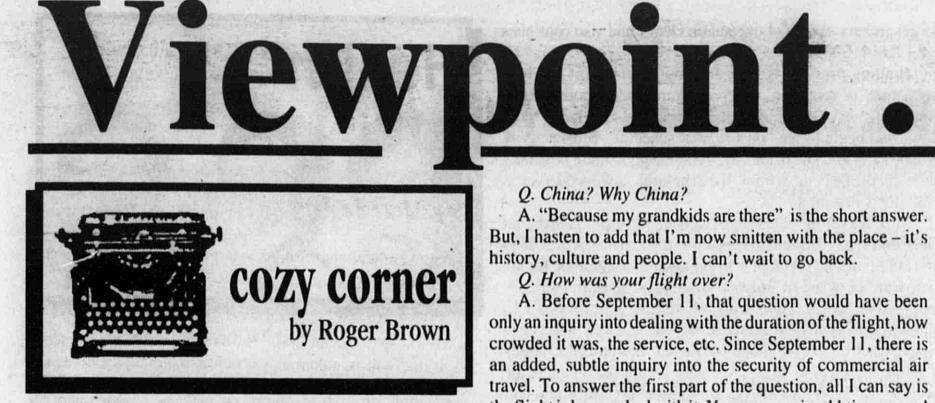
Recall that I stated Advent is a time of devout and joyful expectation and preparation for both the first and second comings of Jesus. We can be devout and be prepared by living now as Jesus has taught. Spend some time every day during Advent in prayer with Jesus. See if you are living now as He taught. and if changes have to be made, ask for His help. We can be, with the grace of God, that devout, joyful and expectant follower of Jesus coming ... The Son of Man is Christ. God love you.



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

0305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) alfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.iserv.net/~goodshep Sunday School9:00 A.M Sunday Worship 10:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible





My guess is you've seen the TV advertisement for a credit card company that shows a middle-age couple visiting the Great Wall of China. The commercial ends with our couple looking out over a vista of the wall snaking over a mountainous terrain. A narrator says something about scratching number twelve (I can't remember the exact number. Please don't write to correct me.) off their list of things to do in life. Then it's home to the reality of busting your butt to pay your credit card afraid to get into a car, but the truth is, you should be. bill. They don't get into that in the commercial

That's where my middle-aged wife and I were about a month ago, hiking along the Great Wall. The difference between us and the credit card couple: there was no booming voice in the background reminding us to scratch the Great Wall off our list. It wasn't on our list. In fact, to my knowledge, we don't even have a list. If we did, I'm sure the Great Wall wouldn't be on it!

My list would have stuff like attending the first Superbowl my hapless Detroit Lions get into. I've been waiting 35 years. If I have to wait another 35 years, I'll be pushing 90 sitting on and beer as you watched. I had coffee and eggs. the fifty-yard line in my Depends.

My wife's list has at least one scratched off. That was visiting the "Field of Dreams" movie site in Dyersville, Iowa, last summer. I don't know what else is on her list, but I do know she likes Kevin Costner. The "Field of Dreams" thing was cool, but I'm not up for visiting other Costner movie sites... "Waterworld" ... "The Postman" ... no thanks!

The point is, Terese and I never had any inclination to visit China until my daughter's family moved to Shanghai, literally "Shanghaiing" our grandchildren! A trip to China suddenly came to the top of our lists. Now that I've been, here are some common questions I've had from people who've asked about the trip.

O. China? Why China?

A. "Because my grandkids are there" is the short answer. But, I hasten to add that I'm now smitten with the place - it's history, culture and people. I can't wait to go back. O. How was your flight over?

A. Before September 11, that question would have been only an inquiry into dealing with the duration of the flight, how crowded it was, the service, etc. Since September 11, there is an added, subtle inquiry into the security of commercial air the flight is long ... deal with it. You are crossing 11 time zones! The service is good, and thanks to those out there afraid to travel since September 11, our flights were not crowded.

To answer the second part of the question, my answer is Popeye's Chicken and Starbucks everywhere. Seriously. nothing but positive. I like to put things in perspective. About 5,000 people died on September 11. As horrific as that is, we on our highways every MONTH! I don't see many people

the airlines since September 11, air travel is safer than ever. Call your travel agent or get online for tickets to somewhere on "your list" today!

Q. Did you get jet lag?

daylight savings period) and a date line between here and Shanghai. I watched the World Series live on an Asian version of ESPN. The game you sat down to watch at 8:00 Sunday

Q. How expensive were the tickets?

A. We booked our economy class tickets well before September 11 for about \$800 round trip from Miami to Shanghai via San Francisco. We booked domestic flights in China from Shanghai to Beijing to Xian and back to Shanghai (equivalent to Atlanta, New York, Cincinnati and back to readers with? Atlanta) for about \$400. That works out to about a nickel per mile. Pretty darned cheap!

airports, late model Boeing and Airbus planes, professional crews and excellent service. I was impressed. Q. How was the food?

TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Several weeks ago, some time after the tragic events of Sept. 11, it occurred to us that we might raise some money for the Red Cross by throwing another Rockin' Reunion concert. Given the number of musicians involved, we definitely underestimated the demand for the show, and so we would like to apologize to anyone who was unable to get a ticket. To those of you who did attend and donated to the cause - thank you. If you had as much fun as we did, you'll be smiling right through Christmas.

If not for the sponsorships for funds, goods and services, this event would not have been as successful. When the remaining Rockin' for the Red Cross T-shirts have been sold, we will have raised approximately \$4,000!!! Thanks again to PPC Electric, Greenridge Realty; Curtis Laundry & Dry Cleaners; Keiser's Kitchen; LA Trim; Dale & Nancy Triplett; Hooper Printing; Brandon and Corporate Sound; All Sportz Deli; Mika, Meyer, Beckett & Jones; Dr. James E. Reagan; Lowell Litho; Meijer, Inc.; Jice Pharmaceutical Co.; Noon Equipment; Wittenbach Tire & Auto; Two Seasons; Larkin's; Dolly Grant at the Red Cross, and Scott Seese for running the lighting system.

A special thanks goes to Gary Eldridge for designing the cool T-shirt logo. Some of these commemorative T-shirts are still available for \$10 at Larkin's Restaurant, Greenridge Realty, or from any of the Rockin' Reunion Gang. (They make great stocking stuffers and the money goes to the cause.)

If you missed Rockin' for the Red Cross, take heart; we'll be Rockin' for the LAAC in April. Get your tickets early. If the demand is there, we'll add another show. Call the Lowell Area Arts Council to reserve your tickets at 897-8545.

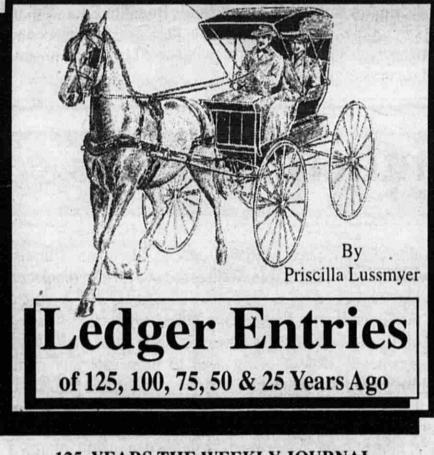
Thanks again, The Rockin' **Reunion Gang**

Dear Roger,

I consider myself fortunate to be living in the United States and attending college. I often reflect on how my attitudes have changed throughout the years and credit my education with opening my eyes to many different viewpoints.

Although I don't often agree with the opinions you choose to express in your paper, I do appreciate the fact that it provokes my thinking and that if I didn't want to read it I wouldn't be required to do so.

To The Editor, cont'd., pg. 6



125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL DECEMBER 6, 1876

Prof. Swensburg of the Grand Rapids Business College has taken first place in both the Grand Rapids and the Kalamazoo state fairs for penmanship.

The latest attempt to revive the Lowell Library Association has been unsuccessful

The editor castigates Mr. Charles Gregg, who came to Lowell in 1871 to teach handwriting, ran up many debts, moved out of town and is now teaching in Ada. Henceforth, firewood in trade for Journal subscriptions Department.

must be delivered before the paper is. The Western Medicine Company's new three-story brick

block is finished and fine-looking.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER DECEMBER 5, 1901;

This issue is missing, as well as every issue until May, 1902; we substitute columns from the first year Ledger Entries was published. 1987. 114 years December 8, 1887.

next year.

A new handcar, driven by a gasoline engine at 10-12 miles an hour, is the invention of two Ionia men, Messrs. Doyle and McVean.

A hog raised on Jesse Drew's farm at Clarksville dresses out at 466 lbs.

President Cleveland and Free Trade receive knocks from the editor.

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A. From what I was able to observe at markets, menus in English and the comments of a tour guide . . . Chinese people have a recipe for just about anything that walks, flys, swims, squirms, wiggles, crawls or, in the case of a sea cucumber, "oozes." At a popular street vendor food district in Beijing, I saw whole baby birds on a stick. Huge scorpions on a stick. Frogs on a stick. I stuck to tamer stuff on a stick ... vegetables and breads.

We went out one evening for Beijing (formerly Peking) travel. To answer the first part of the question, all I can say is duck. Unbelievable! One evening my fish entree was a whole fish steamed with gingeroot. It was very good to eat, though not very appetizing to look at.

For the not-so-adventure some, there are McDonalds, KFCs,

O. Isn't China a communistic country? A. The answer is yes. At least that's what we're all told. should keep in mind that approximately that many people die However, they look pretty darned capitalistic to me. I mentioned the fast food chains. There are shiny new Buicks, Audis, BMWs and Volkswagens mixed with bicycles, trucks and With the steps that have been taken to bolster security on buses. Banking is big in Shanghai and there are new skyscrapers going up everywhere. Beijing is busy getting ready for the 2008 Olympics. Everybody seems to be out hustling for a living ... just like we do here.

I gathered that there are some minimal government hous-A. Like I said, there are 11 time zones (12 during our ing subsidies, health care, etc., but for the most part, I think I would be hard to tell their economic system from ours.

When people ask about communism I get the feeling there is an underlying question about a fear of oppression. In answer, night started at 8:00 Monday morning for me. You had pizza I'd have to say I felt no restriction in my movement around Shanghai or around the country. There is very little police or military presence. The people are extremely friendly and receptive to Americans and other western visitors. It is certainly not the dark, evil empire we might picture when thinking of a communistic country.

Q. Do you really have more China stories to bore us

A. Yes I do! Even if reading about my visit to China wasn't on your list of things to do in this life, you're stuck with at least Their domestic airlines seem as good as ours. Modern one more column of these questions and answers.

> **75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO DECEMBER 9, 1926**

Judge Royal Hawley, the one-man grand jury investigating conditions at Ionia Reformatory leading to the big prison break, blames the dormitory system (no cells) and large numbers of trustees. He adds that other conditions are better. Supt. Gumser invites patrons to visit their children's classes in the central building next Tuesday evening (no school in the afternoon). The Home Ec girls will serve refreshments.

A Stout Air Services plane and passengers land safely in a field near Lowell. The propellers were icing up. A state highway land buyer is working to eliminate some

of the curves on M-66 between here and Greenville. Meanwhile everyone hopes it will be paved as soon as possible. It's in bad shape

Saturday night, six inches of snow. Sunday, six below. Tuesday, roads covered with ice. Winter seems to be here.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER DECEMBER 6, 1951

The Ledger has pictures of outstanding window and house Christmas decorations to help with ideas for local decorators. The Copper Range Co. of Boston will sink many millions into the White Pine copper mine and a model town near the Porcupine Mountains in the U.P.

The Garden Lore Club buys the record album of Handel's "Messiah" for broadcasting while the creche is on display in Richards Park.

Store owners on the bridge who haven't hooked up to the new sewer line must hook up or be prosecuted, says the Health

November's early cold and snow have given way to a warm December. A pansy and a dandelion were reported last week

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER DECEMBER 9, 1976

Eleven below was recorded at the Kent County Airport last Thursday; early winter. Unemployment hits 8.1 percent, highest in 11 months,

The editor predicts that 75 houses will be built in Lowell while wholesale prices have risen for three months. The Better Business Bureau warns not to buy CB's now; the 40-channel sets are illegal until Jan. 1 and the "bargain" 23channel sets may not be bargains. Power boosters are also

> The high school International Club has a very successful "Operation-Christmas Basket" drive.

> "Uncle" Carl Behnke makes a plea for donated Christmas toys, after his workshop-full is destroyed by fire.



LAST CHANCE

If you can stand the cold temperatures. December can provide one last opportunity to get out and hunt whitetail deer. It's difficult to pass up late season deer hunting because it will be nine months before the next season opens.

Muzzleloading season opens on Dec. 7 in the U.P. and Dec. 14 in the Lower Peninsula. You can hunt with an unused firearm license or a leftover tag from the combination license. If you have an antierless deer license, that will work too. Be sure to check on the dates and areas that are covered by the particular license. There is also a late antlerless firearm season in designated deer management units on private land only that begins Dec. 17, 2001, and runs through Jan.1, 2002. Don't



by Nancy Hopkins School board member

Lowell Area Schools to face, as there will be for all public ship - visionary leadership that will protect the needs of schools for many years into the future. But, it also is a year with great opportunities. And to those challenges and opportunities. the district is committed to and responsible for responding to our student and community's needs with focused, visionary assuring student performance and our district's success. Vileadership.

Schools, a strong foundation exists for effective school lead- school issues tomorrow. ership. Responsible, active school leadership continues to look for ways to improve educational programs and services, and to plant a seed, and so I encourage you to consider stepping up here in Lowell, we can be encouraged by the support and input received from those people key to continued improvement parents, teachers, administrators and students, local business leaders and community residents.

Competition for resources and community support seems ued success of our district.

forget archery season re-opened on Dec. 1 and also continues until Jan. 1. 2002.

Hunting pressure is light or non-existent, so it can be a good time to relax and observe nature under more normal conditions. As December rolls along, the deer tend to settle down and begin to feed on a regular schedule. Most activity will be early and late in the day. At some point there is usually snow for the December hunt. It can be cold, however, so warm lothing is essential.

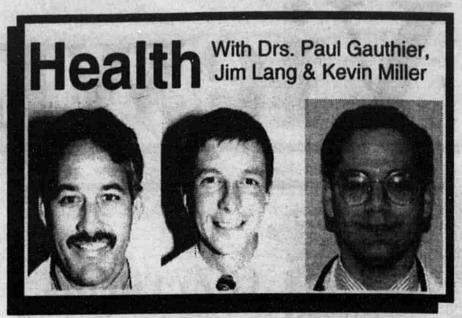
Muzzleloading technology is advancing faster than digital electronics; it is difficult to keep up with all that is new in rifles and ammunition. If you plan to get into muzzleloading for the first time or want to upgrade your present equipment, be prepared to do your homework. I still use a 50 caliber T.C. Hawkin with a patched round ball and black power. It has open sights which are coarse enough to allow me to shoot accurately if I limit my shots to 40 yards or less. Farther than that and it becomes difficult for old eyes to focus on the front sight, rear sight, and the target at the same time. I'm sticking with the Hawkin in an attempt to keep something in my life simple.

Late season deer hunting is an activity to keep you out of mischief until the water gets hard enough to walk on and ice fishing gets underway or the snow gets deep enough for skis.

to be a fact of life in these changing times. In this district. positive, well-defined steps formulated today will help shape future leadership, plan for future resource needs and continued community involvement. The board of education and administrative staff focus much effort now on how to function as an effective leadership team to aid in the long-term development of responsible finances and educational performance improvements. Despite the unsure national economy, the district's dedication to sound fiscal planning - itself a vote of confidence for sustained leadership and vision - positions Lowell Area Schools to not only survive, but excel in the future's increasingly competitive education market.

As a community we will face the challenges that come with every school year. In the LAS district, there is assurance that As this school year continues, there are challenges for a course is being charted now for dedicated, visionary leadercurrent and future boards as education policy-makers and administrators as strategic planners. It will support teachers, parents, residents and the business community as partners in sion and leadership - a meaningful approach alive and active in Between the Lowell community and the Lowell Area LAS today and needed to successfully address significant

> We're just now settling in for winter, but it is never to early and sharing your community spirit, talents and skills as a candidate for the Lowell Area Schools Board of Education in the spring. Help the Lowell schools face the challenges and recognize its opportunities. You will contribute to the contin-



We discussed influenza in last week's article. A complication of influenza, especially in the elderly, is pneumonia. Pneumonia is typically caused by bacterial infection. Symptoms include a productive cough, rust-colored mucus, shaking chills, shortness of breath, chest pain increased with deep breathing, and extreme fatigue. This illness is treated with antibiotics and typically resolves in two weeks. If untreated, it can lead to respiratory failure.

Like influenza, there is also a vaccination for pneumonia. This vaccine covers one of the most common bacterial causes of pneumonia. A single dose is given and is sufficient for most people. There is no danger of getting pneumonia from the vaccine. Pneumonia vaccination is recommended for the following: all people 65 years or older; adults and children with chronic lung or heart problems; persons in whom their spleen has been removed; residents of extended care facilities (nursing homes); people treated in the last year for kidney disease, asthma, or other chronic disease such as diabetes and liver disease; and people undergoing chemotherapy or are otherwise immunocompromised.

This vaccination has been underutilized and has the potential to be life-saving. If you fit one of the categories listed above, please check with your health care provider regarding the pneumonia vaccination.

Lowell teacher named **Michigan Farm Bureau** discussion meet winner

A pool of 37 competing Michigan Farm Bureau Young Farmers was narrowed to just one on Thursday, Nov. 29 when John Schut of Belding was chosen Discussion Meet winner. The state Discussion Meet competition judges Young

tition.

As state winner, Schut is now qualified to compete for the national title. He was awarded a free trip to the American Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting, Jan. 6-9 in Reno, Nev., where he will compete with representatives from other state Farm Bureaus.

In order to make it to the state meet, Schut first successfully navigated through one of 11 District Discussion Meets in the

Schut, 27, is the agriscience instructor at Lowell High School in Kent County. He also serves as FFA advisor for the school's 150-member chapter. He and his wife, Kara, have a daughter, Alexandria, 6.

"The Discussion Meet has been a great experience for me," Schut said of his second year of competing. "Being able to discuss key issues and challenges with my peers allowed me to learn from them and gain an appreciation for the Farm Bureau organization."

The competitors discussed how Farm Bureau can help agriculturists create a positive image of the American farmer, how women have made a difference in American agriculture, the pros and cons of government support programs, and the issues and challenges that will affect agriculture over the next three years.

"There are three E's we need to focus on to improve American agriculture throughout the next three years: education, economics and environment," Schut said during the final competition. "If we focus on these three E's, agriculture will have a prosperous future."

sored by Dodge Truck.



ted into every language on earth, is "Silent Night."

To The Editor, continued...From Page 5

The reason I am writing is that I wanted to share some mosque. Islamic and Arab facilities in Michigan, Illinois things I have learned in this year's classes that I have found particularly relevant. If you accept the new historicist view of literary criticism, you need to believe that there is no "one monolithic voice of an era." much as all our history books would have had us believe. History is written by the winners. There are always marginalized groups that are ignored in their time, some to be rediscovered later. Accounts are shaped by and simultaneously shape the culture that produced them.

We all view the world with our own biases. If you were to take a Marxist view, you would believe that who you are taught to think you are is determined by the economic system of the culture and socioeconomic status to which you are born. Kate Dernocoeur touched on this issue of diversity in her recent article in Sharing the Vision. This great country was founded on those basic freedoms that allow us all to speak our mind, and draws immigrants to seek refuge in America. Freedom of speech, press . . .

The term I wanted to mention is called "white male West Michigan. privilege." If you belong to the segment of the population that is Caucasian and male, you are born with the physical qualities that will afford you potential success that all others will be required to compensate for. Think about the people that control our government. Consider the canonized literature that presided exclusively over education until the last decade or so; picture the officials who run our businesses, banks and churches. Even in America, what percentage of these people do you honestly believe to be nonwhites and/or women?

People who do not speak English well - this includes a good portion of those who consider themselves red-blooded Americans - have a difficult enough time succeeding. Think of inner city children that grow up hearing only Black English vernacular, Hispanic and Asian students that are sometimes the first generation in their family to speak English.

I don't believe "political correctness" has so much to do with the issue of "a few jokes" as much as being responsible as the owner of a community newspaper, in light of the fact that police intervention was required in Chicago the week of the terrorist attacks to prevent a mob of 300 from marching on a

Texas and Australia all were vandalized as a form of displaced retaliation.

As Grand Rapids Press editor, Mike Lloyd stated, "How a nation's people behave in a time of crisis is a true measure of its greatness." Do we really need to propagate any more suffering of innocent people?

I am biased. I hold deep prejudice against any government that would ban flying kites - as the Taliban government has done. I am biased against any legislation that would require a woman to cover her face and ban education for girls over the age of eight, and banning women from working outside the home or from practicing medicine. Unfortunately the Taliban is not the only government that treats women as second-class citizens.

I do not believe, however, that these governments represent the views of all their citizens, nor do I believe they speak for the estimated 5,000 to 7,000 Arab-Americans living in

I am a product of the place and time that I have grown up in. Knowing what society says is "right" and how I feel are sometimes two different things and can be a struggle. Everyone is entitled to his or her own opinion. By the same token, you also have the right to change your mind.

> Respectfully yours, Debra Duiven

To the Editor:

In the Nov. 28, 2001 issue of the supplement to the Ledger "A Network of Early Childhood Educational Opportunities," articles were contributed on everything available to the Lowell area except for the Lowell United Methodist Preschool. How could this have been an oversight? The Ledger did an unjust service to the preschool and the community.

Cristina Buechler

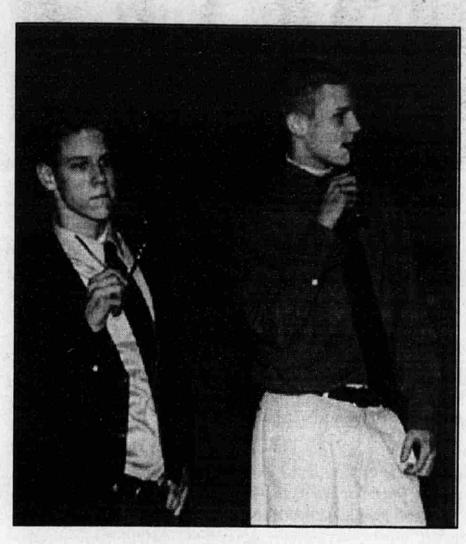
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PNEUMONIA

Farmers between the ages of 18 and 35 on their analysis of several agricultural topics, delivery of answers to key questions and cooperative attitude throughout the daylong compe-

In addition to the expense-paid trip to the national competition, Schut also received a Carhartt jacket sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and a \$500 cash award spon-

LHS Men's Club raises almost \$2,000 for charities





By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

The Lowell High School Men's Club has raised nearly \$2,000 for school, community and world charities this year.

The club was founded with the intent of funding charities across our commu- \$160. nity and the world, and to bet-

ter the lives of students at LHS, according to its ward chancellor, Chris Michael. On Friday, high school

girls were invited to bid on members of the club for an evening with a member/members on Dec. 8 at the Christmas Dance. Winning bids ranged anywhere from \$35-

When through, the club Children's Fund.



The bidding got lively when the prize was an evening with a club member.



had raised \$1,206 for Flat seminar and was the third fundraiser held by the club so far this school year.

In September, the Men's Club held a car bash. Participants paid \$1 to hit a 1980 Dodge Lancer. The event raised \$300 for the Afghan \$1,906.

Monies were also col-River Outreach Ministries. lected during a fall dance for The auction was held during the Red Cross. The funds went to the New York City Police and Fire departments' families who lost loved ones in the Sept. 11 bombing of the World Trade Center. The Men's Club raised \$400.

In all, the club has raised

A Statistic and a second second second

Brenda's Hair Design stays in current location, and open for business

The Lowell Ledger-Wednesday, December 5, 2001 -Page 7

Brenda Bergy informed the Lowell Ledger that while she was considering moving her business, Brenda's Hair Design, to 617 W. Main, the move won't be taking place. The Hardings, who own the property, have accepted another person's bid.

Bergy said she went before the Lowell Planning Commission a couple of weeks ago to make sure the parking arrangements would work before proceeding with the deal and had even gotten support from a neighbor who would allow for ingress/egress along with additional parking.

Her salon, located in the Crystal Flash Plaza, is open, with Bergy stating that at this time, she had no plans to move.

Residents feel space and integrity threatened power lines

••• "The decision as to what is cleared will be made on a case by case basis"

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

What local power companies call essential public service, area Vergennes Township residents view as a threat to rural space and its land's integrity.

Old antiquated poles. 69.000 volt lines and insulators currently used by Lowell Light and Power need to be upgraded to ensure ample voltage is available to serve its customers.

The proposal is an addition of transmission lines from

the Vergennes/Marquette structed. 138.000 volt line to a Lowell

mission lines and Bowes Road ter. This is between Consumsubstation, while ensuring ers Power and the residents." proper voltage, will be costly. said Vergennes Township The cost to LL&P will be ap- clerk, Mari Stone. "Many resiproximately \$4 million. The dents are concerned that their Lowell utility company cur- property backs up to the easerently pays Wolverine roughly ment (school property), yet \$13,000 a month to transfer they are in jeopardy of losing the power from Consumers some trees. Power to LL&P. That cost will be eliminated once the ers Power area manager, said lines and substation are con- the company is holding con-

Many residents affected Light & Power line north of by the proposal have turned to Vergennes Township for help. Construction of the trans- "This is not a township mat-

- Ernie Sagraska

Ernie Sagraska, Consum-

hopes of running the lines scape impacts residents' lives. rights would be costly and further east onto the school It will destroy our open space time-consuming," Sagraska property and thus having less and the natural integrity of explained. or no impact on the residential properties affected.

While the new line may may not have a direct impact on Vergennes' residents, the line will secure proper voltage for the Englehardt Library, restaurants and doctors' offices. "Because of that, it will have an indirect impact on all residents," Sagraska said.

Brian Ricksgers, township resident, said the construction of the transmission line will have a direct impact

versations with the school in on him. "Changing the land- chased. "Securing easement our land," he said. "I also have environmental, stray voltage ists as to how much land will and lightning concerns."

> sumers Power purchased easehomes have been built in the out there."

considered have not been pur-



and the second second

"The decision as to what ment rights for the disputed is cleared will be made on a five-six-mile stretch from the case to case basis," Sagraska land owners. Subsequently, said. "There are sizeable trees

Consumers Power repre-The route selected was sentatives met with the Verone of three considered for gennes Township Board in the transmission line. Ease- September to inform it of the ments for the other two routes proposed construction.

Rockin' Reunion raises the roof and funds for the Red Cross

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

Taking a page from its beneficiary, three local bands raised money to help an organization that has done great things for many years.

Well and the Great Lakes union" on Nov. 24 with the for decades to come." proceeds going to the American Red Cross.

Larkin's Other Place, raised \$2.000. "Once we've successfully sold all the shirts printed ing response and good time MacNaughton, Mitch up for the event, we expect that number to rise to \$4,000," said event coordinator, Rick Seese.

The event gathered an au- continue to help nonprofit ordience of 230 people.

for the Red Cross's general essary," Seese said. "The Red Lowell Area Arts Council," Scragg Zoster, Alive & Cross has been doing great Seese said. things for a long time and it Band held a "Rockin' Re- will continue to do great things in the Rockin' Reunion for

the Lowell Area Arts Coun- Chris Collins, Ken Gregersen The event, held at cil/Lowell Area Chamber of Dave Jones, Dale and Cindy Commerce's Summer Concert Series. The overwhelmhad by all led to the nostalgic McMahon, Seese and Doug rekindling of that July spirit. Slocum Seese said if there is good

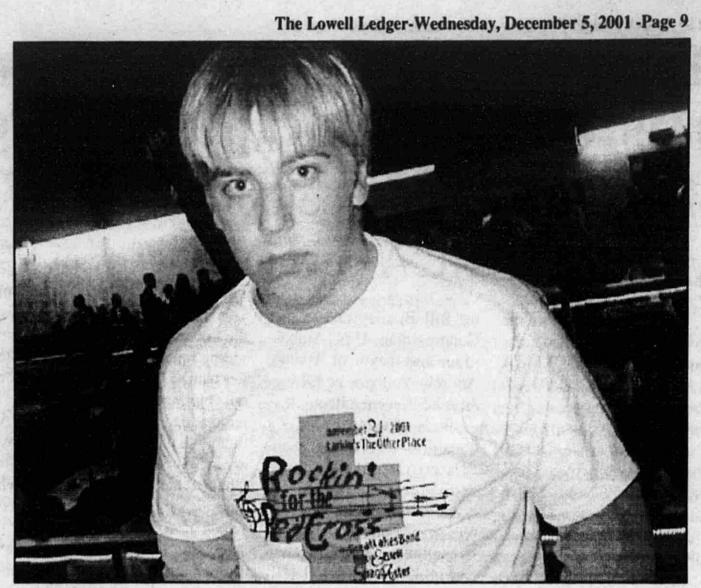
cause, the bands would like to signed by Gary Eldridge.

ganizations raise money "The money raised was through their love of music,

"Provided there is enough fund, allowing it to use the interest, we'd like to hold a money for what it deems nec- benefit on April 20 for the

Returning to play and sing the Red Cross benefit were The bands first reunited at Brian Adams, Carl Andrews, Kropf, Dan Lomas, Charlie Luscombe. Roger

The shirt logo was de-



Gary Eldridge.





Two of West Michigan's talented guitarists, left, Dan Lomas from Alive & Well and right, Doug "Showboat City Slim" Slocum from The Great Lakes Band, trade solos during Rockin' for the Red Cross.



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While some latitude exbe cleared, the route used is In the early '70s, Con- no longer in question.

Scott Seese sports the "Rockin' for the Red Cross" t-shirt designed by local artist

History channel premiere focuses on YMCA ••• Documentary celebrates 150 YMCAs have influenced school. Wellness Center of-American history, as well as a fers use of fitness equipment years of YMCA service and aerobic classes for adults, preview of our plans to move youth, teen and senior adults. forward into a new century,

tounding of the first YMCA how it all began on The His- time YMCA members. tory Channel. A documentary film titled "America's Haven: transformation from an evan-The YMCA at 150" was produced by YMCA of the USA and will air on the History day. Dec. 29.

proud to share this "living" history book with The History Channel and the Lowell community," said Will Welsh. rector.

founded the first YMCA and the way for James Naismith to further around the globe. invent basketball at the Lowell Branch YMCA might not exist, said Welsh.

have influenced America and from infant-parent water orihow many heroic Americans entation to physical rehabilihave strong ties to the YMCA tation. movement. The hour-long youth-in-government. job documentary features inter- -skills training and anti-drug views with former U.S. Sena- and gang intervention

December 29 marks the tor Bill Bradley and former 150th anniversary of the Congressman, U.N. Ambassador and mayor of Atlanta. in America, and you can watch Andrew Young - both long- lies who want to participate in for America's 2,434 YMCAs.

It also details the YMCA's gelical group of young, urban Protestant men to a broad-based secular, commu-Channel at 6 p.m. EST. Satur- nity organization led, staffed by, and serving men, women "The Lowell Branch is and children across all reli- Ken Gladish, Ph.D., national and adult; childcare for ages gious and social lines

ebrates YMCA legacies in- vivid portrayal of how for 6th grade through high 180 families. In all, 5,992 ficials, cluding pioneering mass Lowell YMCA executive di- swimming instruction, teaching English as a second lan-Without the pioneering guage. service in World Warl spirit of national YMCA. he- trenches and World War II roeslike Thomas Sullivan who Pow and Japanese-American detention camps, and the ar-Luther Gulick who revolution- rival in 1978 of a certain song ized physical fitness and led that spread the Y's story still

YMCAs have served in YMCA Training School, the every one of the nation's struggles since the American Civil War and have received a Tune in to "America's Nobel Peace Prize as well as a Haven: The YMCA at 150" to subsequent nomination. Their see firsthand how YMCAs everyday programs range mentoring.

our youth sports, childcare and teen center activities but are "America's Haven" was genunable to pay full price. "We erously funded by a grant from are delighted that The History the Pepsi Cola Company, Channel has chosen to show- which has chosen YMCAs as rolled in youth programs; 218 case the century and a half in a charity of choice. which YMCAs grew with the American Democracy." said fers sports programs for youth executive director of the infant through 5th grade. The 236 children enrolled in three America's Haven cel- YMCA of the USA. "It's a Teen Center offers activities childcare programs, serving

building strong kids, strong The Lowell YMCA leads families and strong commuthe Lowell community in pro- nities." YMCA of the USA is viding scholarships for fami- the national resource office

The production of

Scholarship funding is made possible by the Invest In Youth campaign.

Last year, the Lowell Branch YMCA served 1,366 members; 624 volunteers donated 11,500 hours of service; 210 children were involved in preschool programs; 1,812 enteens participated in teen pro-The Lowell YMCA of- grams, Leaders Club and activities; 1,526 adults joined in fitness programs and leagues;

Pickup truck collides with Lowell school bus



Commuters were slowed by a crash on Tuesday morning at Lowell's West Main Street and Valley Vista Drive intersection. The 7:45 a.m. accident involved a westbound pickup truck and a Lowell school bus. The bus driven by Beverly Covell, of Lowell, was eastbound on Main turning left at the light onto Valley Vista Dr. The pickup driven by Steve Stern, of Saranac, collided with the bus near the boarding door.

There were no children on the bus at the time. Both drivers were slightly injured. The driver of the pickup was transported to Spectrum Health Butterworth, treated and released. The bus driver sought her own treatment. The accident is still under investigation by Lowell police officer, James Hinton. No citation has yet been issued however. Stern was determined to be at fault for disobeying a traffic signal by running the yellow light.

EAGUE \$300 PER TEAM

JANUARY 15 - MARCH 19 **Every Tuesday Night** 6:00 - 9:00 PM **Lowell Middle School**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE- JANUARY 7, 2002

- The season will be 10 weeks long playing 10 games.
- All games will have 2, 18-min. halves (3 min. half time).
- The clock will stop for free throws, time outs and injuries.
- Teams may have 9 players on their roster; only 8 may play in the game. The 9th man is a sub.
- Registration: Call the Lowell YMCA at 897-8445, Monday-Thursday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, Friday 9:00 AM-3:00 PM.
- The YMCA will give each team numbered game shirts.
- YMCA staff officials will ref every game.

Castletine Canada Caller States and a second

In the event of school cancellations, please call the YMCA Program Hotline at 897-8445 ext. 705. Make-up dates will be determined by the YMCA.

GIVE THE GIFT OF HEALTH THIS CHRISTMAS! Purchase a LOWELL YMCA **GIFT CERTIFICATE** for your loved ones!

All memberships purchased for the holiday season will receive a free T-shirt, fitness assessment and personal training session.

1º Januar



people of all ages participated in programs, services and memberships at the Lowell YMCA.

The mission is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all. The cornerstone of all Lowell YMCA prois the gramming organization's four character development values - caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. The emphasis for all programs, activities

and services is on having fun. while at the same time learning a healthy respect for the game, fellow athletes, and of-

different for

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

PROCEEDINGS OF **CITY COUNCIL** OF THE **CITY OF LOWELL**

For the Regular Meeting of MONDAY, November 19, 2001.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Blough and the City Clerk called Roll.

Present: Councilmembers Green, Myers, Shores and Mayor Blough.

Absent: Councilmember Brubaker. Also Present: City Manager David Pasquale, City Clerk Betty Morlock, Chief of Police James Valentine, Public Works Director Daniel DesJarden, Planning Commissioner Jim Pfaller and Police Officer James Hinton.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by MYERS to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2001 regular meeting as written. YEA: 4. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 1.

MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by GREEN that the bills and accounts payable be allowed and the warrants issued. YEA: 4.

NAY: 0. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (11/19/01)
GENERAL FUND \$126,227.81
MAJOR STREET FUND 260.00
LOCAL STREET FUND 260.00
DDA FUND 275,724.98
CITY HALL CONSTRUCTION FUND 450.54
AIRPORT FUND
WASTEWATER FUND 1,075.10
WATER FUND
EQUIPMENT FUND 2,810.00
CURRENT TAX FUND 17,771.74
CARR FUND 500.00

Item #1. CONSIDERATION OF A NEW FULL YEAR **CLASS C LIQUOR LICENSE WITH DANCE - ENTER-TAINMENT PERMIT - BERGIN BUILDING MANAGE-**MENT AT 201 E. MAIN STREET. At its October 15, 2001 meeting, the City Council approved a resolution requesting a Class C Liguor License for 201 East Main Street by Bergin Building Management (Gilmore Enterprises) for a business operating in a Downtown Development Authority District. This resolution along with a similar document adopted by the DDA on October 1 was forwarded to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

As part of the process, the LLC requires a Local Approval Notice be approved by the City Council. Bergin is in line for consideration of the license, but none is set aside at this point.

Councilmember Green questioned the sentence "Local approval is also required for dance, entertainment, dance - entertainment or topless activity permits by authority of MLC". Green understood these were four different types of permits, not three. Police Chief Valentine responded this is correct. Green then inquired if by approving a spray. dance/entertainment permit, the Council would not be approving a topless activity permit. Valentine responded correct.

Mayor Blough clarified dance/entertainment would allow a small band and would also support having a dance

Councilmember Myers asked how this differed from the resolution passed previously. Pasquale responded the previous action was passed to support their application to seek one of the ten DDA licenses, which could be issued by the State.

Myers inquired if this was a new liquor license or one which would be transferred from another location. Pasquale responded it would be a new license.

Myers asked if the document gave the ability to transfer a license. Valentine responded no.

Item #6. COUNCIL COMMENTS. Councilmember IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by SHORES to approve the resolution for a new full year Class C Green offered congratulations to those who won Council seats (Councilmembers Myers, Shores and Brubaker as Liquor License with a Dance-Entertainment Permit at 201 E. Main Street to the Michigan Liquor Control Comwell as Jim Pfaller). Green also mentioned Al Mathews, who ran for the office. mission. YEA: 4. NAY: 0. Mayor Blough thanked everyone who voted.

ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED

Item #2. RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR PARKING VIOLATIONS. Police Chief Valentine explained, with winter approaching, on-street overnight parking enforcement is more crucial. In the past, the department has experienced some delays with individuals paying the ticket issued. There is no enforcement action beyond issuing the initial ticket, unless three or more citations are received which can then be turned over to the District Court. Therefore, the Police Department is asking for a resolution to provide an incentive for individuals to pay their parking summons in a timely fashion.

Specifically, a \$25 fine would be imposed if the violation is paid after the 10th day, but before the 31st day of ticket issuance. This rises to \$50 after the 31st day. The \$5 initial fine remains.

Councilmember Shores asked if the fine was per ticket. Valentine responded yes.

Mayor Blough asked if there has been resistance to pay the \$5.00 penalty. Valentine responded occasionally. Currently, an initial letter is sent out. If no response is received, another letter is issued stating the individual would be turned over for prosecution. However, this action is no longer available.

Councilmember Myers asked if Valentine compared the fee with other similar sized communities. Valentine responded no.

Green inquired the length of time an individual would have to contest the ticket. Valentine responded at least 10 days.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by MYERS to adopt a resolution establishing penalties for parking violations YEA: 4.

NAY: 0.

ABSENT: 1 MOTION CARRIED

Item #3. AUTHORIZATION OF THE 2002 GYPSY MOTH PROGRAM. Over the past several years, the City has contracted with the Kent County Conservation District regarding a gypsy moth suppression program. Last year, 80 acres in the City were involved.

In 2002, the District is requesting the City's interest to continue the program. First, areas will be surveyed Those on the west end of town were actually sprayed. In order for an area to be sprayed, there has to be a significant number of egg masses. This has worked very well for the City. The City has had problems, particularly around the cemetery. It appears this is coming under control. Pasquale has asked the Conservation District to examine the cemetery to ensure the egg masses are low. If these aren't, then there would be spraying.

Based on the results, spraying is to take place in May. Prices include \$6 per acre to survey and \$20 per acre to

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by GREEN to approve City participation in the 2002 Gypsy Moth Program.

YEA: 4. NAY: 0 ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

Item #4. MONTHLY REPORTS. Councilmember Myers questioned the location of fire calls for the month of October. The report indicated there were seven in the City of Lowell, seven in Lowell Township and eight in Vergennes Township. He asked if the numbers for year to date were similar to that in terms of equal fire proteceach area pays per run while the training costs are split accordingly.

Item #5. CITIZEN COMMENTS: No comments were received.

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Blough was contacted by a Vergennes Township resident who is a member of a group which is reviewing a proposed natural areas inventory study. This is being overseen by Vergennes and Lowell townships. The project goal is to identify ecologically significant natural areas within Vergennes and Lowell townships, to describe such sites with respect to their natural and conservation values and to provide each township with a report summarizing the sites and the overall results of the inventory. The study would be conducted by Calvin College students on a part-time basis. The resulting inventory could be used as a planning tool or reference document. The committee intends to submit an application to the Lowell Community Fund for funding. An informational meeting would be held on Wednesday, November 28, 7:00 p.m. at Vergennes Township Hall. The group would ask for a statement of resolution in support for this tool to be funded and subsequently assembled.Blough encouraged attendance at the meeting.

Myers inquired what the cost would be. Blough responded under \$25,000.

Blough inquired if there was a line item in the budget for the Lowell Showboat maintenance. Pasquale responded yes. He stated there is a total of \$691.78 with a remaining balance of \$6,638.22.

Blough also noted there are many areas along the shoreline of the Riverwalk which are quite deep. A toddler or small animal would have difficulty getting out if they fell in. Public Works Director Dan DesJarden stated rocks and stones would be placed along the shore.

Blough also stated refuse from natural items as well as construction residue has floated down the river and has backed up. DesJarden stated this would be cleaned up.

Item #7. MANAGER'S REPORT. City Manager Pasquale reported on the following:

A. The following meetings minutes were provided:

- Downtown Development Authority meeting of October 11,2001
- Airport Board meeting of October 2, 2001 Chamber of Commerce meeting of October 10, 2001

B. In response to City Council comments, the intersection of Sibley and Ridgeview has been repaved, completed over the past week. This work is part of the Conservatory Woods Condominium project, which is under construction. The first leg of Ridgeview Drive extension is being built by the developers.

Police Chief Valentine explained there is a three-way stop sign at the intersection. The stop sign at Roberta Jayne and Sibley has been removed.

C. Also, in response to a Council inquiry, Pasquale briefly discussed the status of the White's Bridge property. which the City donated to the State for the development of a canoe launch and related facilities with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The donation took place through Council meeting held on January 6, 1992 (Councilmember Green's first meeting). Since then, nothing has been accomplished.

Pasquale spoke with David Olson of the DNR Plainwell Office about the status. He said because of reorganization, the project fell through the cracks. Pasquale was then referred to John Winters of the Grand Rapids office who now has this project responsibility. An updated report will be provided to Council.

D. The City Offices will be closed on Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23 for Thanksgiving.

HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN to adjourn at 8:10 p.m.

tion. City Manager Pasquale believed so, responding DATE APPROVED: Monday, December 3, 2001

Michael K. Blough, Mayor Betty R. Morlock, Clerk

and the second secon

The Lowell Ledger-Wednesday, December 5, 2001 -Page 12



Lowell daughter hits **USA Today best-seller list**

granddaughter of Walter yet alone. This story is her Gumser (Lowell Superinten- chance at "happily ever afdent of Schools from 1926 -1960) has written her 20th book. Quinn has incorporated pieces of her childhood days in Lowell into the fictitious town which is the setting for Today Best Seller list. When her last five books.

Around The Corner will hit bookstores in mid-December. It is the compelling story about grocery store checkout stand the human spirit, about making the most of what life has given you, and about happy endings. This story tells of lidified the year she was Phyllis Langford, aperson de- suspended from her high serving of happiness - a good

Author Tara Taylor Quinn, person, a loving person - and school typing class for hiding ter.

Ouinn sold her first book to Harlequin in 1993 and now eight years later, she has sold 25 books and has hit the USA the busy author was 14 years Quinn's latest release. Just old, she picked up a free promotional copy of a Harlequin Romance at her hometown and the love affair with romance began.

The relationship was so-

a romance behind the keys of her electric typewriter. Unaware that her instructor blissfully on with one finger resting on the automatically repeating period key. She finished the book in the principal's office much to the chagrin of her school board president father. Forced to leave her romances in her locker after that. Quinn's typful. She sits at her keyboard the world. many hours a day now - typing romances.

For over a quarter century Franciscan Center has been a model for preschool education

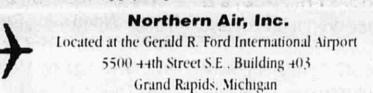
Editor's Note: In the Nov. 28 edition of the Lowell Ledger, the tail end of the story titled "For over a quarter century Franciscan Center has been a model for preschool education" was inadvertently omitted. The Ledger has decided to rerun the story this week.

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NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE

Public notice is hereby given that, pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered by the Circuit Court for the County of Kent, State of Michigan, on the 17th day of September 2001 in the action known as RICHARD G. BISHOP. Plaintiff versus BRADLEY JAY FELTY Defendant, Case No. 01-6029-CH, I shall offer for sale to the highest bidder, at a public auction to be held at the West Entrance on the first floor of the Kent County Courthouse, 180 Ottawa Avenue N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503, the place of holding the Circuit Court within Kent County, Michigan, on December 19, 2001, at 10:00 a.m. local time, the following described property:

Lot 5, Rathbone's Addition to the City of Grand Rapids, Section 2, Town 6 North, Range 12 West, according to the recorded plat thereof in Liber 20 of Plats, Page 28, Kent County Records Commonly known as 1219 Rathbone S.W., Wyoming, Michigan.

This property may be redeemed during the six (6) months following the sale.

Dated: October 31, 2001

Mary Hollinrake Kent County Clerk

ROBERT N. SWARTZ Attorney at Law 1100 McKay Tower 146 Monroe Center N.W. Grand Rapids, MI 49503 (616) 459-3303

By Jessica Cilley Contributing Writer

Just north of Lowell, there is a 280-acre farm that doubles as a preschool program for children. A woman named Snacks are also provided. Mother Rita, who still works ated it 26 years ago.

The Franciscan Life Process Center prides itself for pigs, sheep, cows, horses, its unique goal of teaching children by example. Accord- dogs. ing to Charlie Knudstrup, a preschool teacher there, the Center focuses on "learning through play - how to get along with others, helping children to be as self-sufficient as possible by working out conflicts as they arise.

each day. Classes are split between learning on the farm and inside a classroom.

Daily activities include

classes. During art time, the children are taught the process versus product art form. "They have to create their own art instead of following a premade model," says Knudstrup.

When the children venthere almost every day, cre- ture outside to the farm, they learn about the many animals that live there. These include dren, and is taught by both chickens, goats, ducks and Marne. There are also volun-

> This is especially excitbaby animals are born. "Then," says Knudstrup, "we teach them how the animals are growing just like the children are.

The Center provides many Since the Center is lo- opportunities to experience cated on a working farm, there nature. Children are often are many different activities taken outside to see what hapthat children can learn from pens in the woods with the changing season.

The Center's preschool program follows Lowell's school schedule. There are two music, cooking, and art half-day sessions each day of

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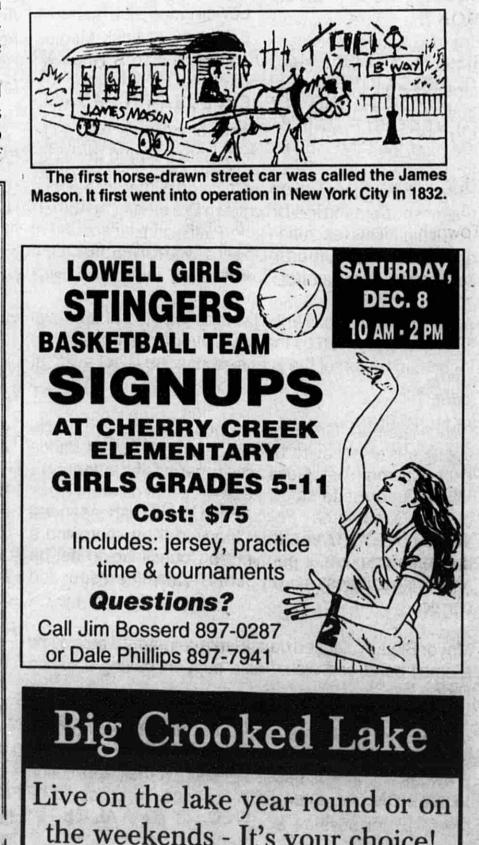
Phone 897-4123

the week. Children can be on schedule.

Morning or afternoon classes are available. During sessions per week, totaling about 100 kids who can par- they can. ticipate each year.

Each class has 24 chilteers for each class. With the teacher-to student ratio very low.

The preschool program is school program. a "family grouping" program, meaning that all children, ages 3-5, are in the same class.



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Quinn began her career in professional writing as a stringer with the Dayton Daily News in the late seventies. A loomed close by, Quinn read certified high school English teacher, she published several magazine articles before turning to writing as a full-time occupation.

Harlequin Books are sold in more than 120 international markets and are translated into 26 languages. The company publishes more than 60 titles ing skills improved - a fact for monthly and employs more which she is eternally grate- than 1300 authors from around

The Franciscan Center has either a two- or three-day no wage requirements for the families who want to participate in their program. There are scholarships for low-inthe school year, there are four come families, enabling them to pay for the program when

There are only two requirements the Center asks of its children: They must be Knudstrup and Suzanne three years of age and pottytrained.

Enrollment takes place in Mother Rita coming in to February of each year. To coning in the spring, when the teach Bible stories, this makes tact the Franciscan Center for more information, call 897-7842 and ask about the pre-

Notices in The Ledger's "Coming Events" are free of charge to any nonprofit organization in the Lowell, Ada, Alto, and 868-6481. Saranac areas. We prefer such notices to be kept brief and to be submitted by mail, but will accept notices by phone at 897-9261.

EVERY MONTH: The Flat p.m. **River Snowmobile Club** meets at the clubhouse at 11841 Potters Rd. just east of Montcalm Ave. For LAAC from 6:30 to 8:30 meeting dates and times call 897-5015. Guests are come. welcome.

1ST SUN. OF EACH AD/HD at Calvin College,7-MON .: Family Council of Laurels of Kent volunteer group meets at 3 p.m. to 897-6325 or 248-2423. discuss enhancing the lives of residents and staff. promoting a more pleasant living and working environment in the home. Public is invited to attend.

EVERY MON .: Lowell High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Friends - meets from 7-8:30 p.m. in members' homes. See poster in high school cafeteria or call 676-1355 for details.

SECOND MON. OF EACH MONTH: Fallasburg Historical Society holds its monthly board meeting in the meeting room of Englehardt Library at 7 p.m. Public invited.

SECOND MON. OF EACH MONTH: The Lowell Board of Education meets at 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Building, former Runciman Elementary, 300 High Street.

SECOND MON. OF EACH MONTH: The Bowne Township Historical Society holds its regular meetings at the Historical Museum at 84th and Alden Nash, 7:30 p.m.

MON. OR TUES .: Cub Scouts for boys in 1st - 5th grades, in Alto or in Lowell. 897-8751 for more information.

FOURTH MONDAY OF **EACH MONTH:** American Legion Clark-Ellis Post 152 at Lowell V.F.W. Hall, 307

Post #8303 meets at V.F.W. Clubroom, 307 E. Main St., Lowell, 7:30 p.m.

EVERY MON .: Boy Scout Troop 102, for boys 11 & up or completing the 5thgrade, meet 7 to 8:30 p.m. during the school year in the Scout Cabin at the end of N. Washington St. Enjoy activities like hiking and

camping and learn skills EVERY WED .: The "Pep- FIRST AND THIRD EVERY FRI. & SAT .: that can last a lifetime. For infor call Terry Cavanaugh,

TUES .: Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops MI#372 897-7842. meets at Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Building. Weigh-ins at 5:45

TUES .: Flat River Kalamazoo Ave. SE at 1 Woodcarvers meet at p.m. New members wel-

1ST TUES.: Adults with 9 p.m. No cost. All welcome. For info. call Gary Engle at

1ST TUES .: WINGS Parent Group meetings from Elderly volunteers needed ell. 7:30 to 9 p.m., usually in to participate in the Board Room at 300 High Intergenerational program St. Business meetings are with school-age children Parents Supporting Paron odd months & program from Lowell in seasonal ents-support group at meetings on even months. Open to any interested 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. or 12:45 Center offers topics and parents.

FOURTH TUES .: Knights velopment Center, of Columbus #7719 meets 897-7842. St. Mary School, 7:30 p.m.

at the Masonic Center, 119 Church, 2560 Lake Michi-Lincoln Lake, Lowell. All Masons are welcome.

Lowell Lions Club meets at Anonymous, 7:30 p.m. at 6:30 p.m. at Look Memo- Forest Hills Presbyterian rial Fire Station, S. Hudson. Church, 7495 Cascade Rd.

EVERY 3RD TUES .: Par- dues, no weigh-ins. ents of children with AD/ HD Issues Group meeting EVERYTHURS .: Take Off Please call 752-8300 for at St. Luke's Lutheran Pounds Sensibly Tops MI Church, 32156 4 Mile NE No. 333, Saranac, meets (& E. Beltline) at 7 p.m. at the Saranac Public Li-Call Linda at 874-5662. For brary. Weigh-ins at 6:45 teen group info., call Sarah p.m. 281-6588.

EVERY 1ST TUES: Adults ers meets at Lowell with AD/HD Issues Group Nazarene Church, 201 N. meeting at Calvin College Washington, at 5:30 and Rm. 206 of the Commons 7 p.m. Registration begins bldg. For information call Connie 942-6887.

EVERY OTHER WED .: 800-651-6000. 6:45-8:45 p.m. G.E.M.S. Girls Club - Calvary Chris- EVERY THURS. - St. ONCE A MONTH SAT .: tian Reformed Church. Girls ages 8-13. 897-8694.

EVERY WED .: Pioneer pregnant women and ado-Clubs 6:30-8 p.m. Ever- lescents at the school. green Missionary Church, From 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.; on 10501 Settlewood Dr. Chil- Mondays from 5:30 - 8 dren ages 4 thru 7th grade. p.m. Phone 897-9393. Call 897-5894 for details.

meets at Lowell Congregational Church basement.

EVERY WED.: Rotary meets at noon at Lowell Masonic Temple.

pers" (senior adults) meets THURS .: The Alto Lions Averill Historical Museum at Franciscan Life Process Club meets at Bowne Cen- of Ada at 7144 Headley is Center from 1-3:30 p.m. ter Fellowship Hall, corner \$10 per week. Transporta- of 84th & M-50 (Alden tion available. Call Pat at Nash) at 7 p.m.

EVERY SECOND WED .: N.A.R.F.E. meets 1:30 p.m. Grand Rapids Machine at Trinity Lutheran Church, Knitters Club meets at 2700 E. Fulton. Kentwood Library, 4799 949-8655 for info.

G.F.W.C. Lowell Women's 897-5981 for info. Club meets at 12 p.m. in the community room at Schneider Manor, 725 Bowes Rd.

EVERY FOURTH WED .: Post, 307 W. Main St., Low- month at 7:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. Call Sister Colleen Ann Nagle, F.S.E. at EVERY SECOND & the Franciscan Child De- 7842 for time.

Rapids. Call 897-9794.

(at 36th St.) No fees, no

THURS .: Weight Watch-1/2 hour before meetings. New members are invited to join at any time. Call 1-

Mary's Pregnancy Crisis Center, 402 Amity St., nondenominational help for

FIRSTTHURS .: 4-H drama WED .: 8 p.m. ALANON club examines theater-related topics, creative and personal development skills. Meetings held at Lowell Middle School choir room. For information call 897-1502 after 5 p.m.

EVERY 2ND THURS .: LOWELLAREA HISTORI-

EVERYTHURS.: Saranac 5-17 \$1.50; members are p.m. Call Sara Coates 365- Community and Area Mu- free. 1247 or Bette Frieswyk at sic Makers at Saranac High School. Choir: 6:30 - 7:30 ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY p.m.; Band: 7:30-8:15 p.m. EVERY SECOND WED .: Call Kathy at 642-6316/

> SECOND EVERY THURS .: Lowell V.F.W. Auxiliary #8303 meets at

EVERY THIRD THURS .: activities. Times available: Franciscan Life Process 1-4 p.m. 149 S. Hudson. discussion for parents of children all ages. Call 897- Area Fire Dept. is sponsor-

EVERY THIRD THURS .: Royal Arch Masons regu- Memorial Fire Station, 315 EVERY FOURTH WED .: lar meeting at 7:30 p.m. at S. Hudson. EVERY SECOND TUES .: Support group for Periph- the Lowell Masonic Cen-Lowell Masonic Lodge eral neuropathy meets at 4 ter, 119 Lincoln Lake, THURS. & FRI., DEC. 6 & regular meeting, 7:30 p.m. p.m. at St. Paul's Anglican Lowell. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. 7: Checks should be made

gan Dr. N.W., Grand EVERY THIRD THURS .: for 2002 Senior class trip LaLeche League of Ada. Cascade & Lowell meets at EVERY 1ST & 3RD TUES .: EVERY WED .: Overeaters 6:30 p.m. for socializing; Carol Drenth, 10200 meeting at 7 p.m. Mother to Bennett, Lowell, mother support for pregnant & breastfeeding women. Nursing children are welcome to attend. Located at a church in Ada. more information.

> SECOND SAT. OF EV-ERY MONTH: The Ada Historical Society meets at the Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley at 1 p.m.

> SECOND THURS. OF EACH MONTH: Genealogy - The Alto Family Tree Club meets at Alto Public Library from 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

> Franciscan Life Process Center program for siblings of children with special needs, ages 5-15 from 1-4 p.m. Activities include cooking, music, arts, crafts, etc. Call Sister Mary Margaret 897-7842 to register and find out dates.

> SECOND SAT .: Lowell Amateur Radio Club meets at Lowell High School. 9 a.m. social gathering; 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors the 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system

Contact Terry Amidon at

E. Main St. at 8 p.m.

EVERY 1ST MON .: V.F.W

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COMING EVENTS

open from 1 to 4 p.m. Open other times by appointment. Call 676-9346.

CAL MUSEUM HOURS: Tues., Sat. & Sun.: 1-4 p.m.; Thurs., 1-8 p.m. Families: \$10; individuals \$3; ages

HOURS: Mon.- Wed., 12 -8 p.m.; Thurs. & Fri.: 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sat.: 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE: Business meeting held 3:30 p.m. at the V.F.W. the third Monday of each

> COUNCIL: Open Tues., Wed. & Fri.: noon - 5 p.m.; Thurs .: noon-7 p.m.; Sat .:

> WED., DEC. 5: The Lowell ing a blood drive for the Grand Valley Blood program from 2-7 p.m. at Look

to "Lowell Senior Parents" (total \$100 or installments) during lunch periods or to

SAT., DEC. 8: 19th annual Roque River Artisans of Michigan show & sale from 9 - 4 p.m. at Lowell High School. Over 75 designers/artists; \$1 admission at door to support Lowell class of 2003. Light breakfast and lunch available.

SAT., DEC. 8: Franciscan Life Process Center offering a program for siblings of children with special needs, ages 5-15, 1-4 p.m. Call Mary Margaret 897-7842 to register.

SUN., DEC. 9: The Clark-Ellis American Legion and Auxiliary annual Christmas dinner will be at 1 p.m. at Schneider Manor. Meat and beverage will be furnished. Bring a dish to pass and own table service LOWELL AREA ARTS Sponsors are Richard and Phyllis Bieri.

> FRI., DEC. 14: Cyclamen Chapter #94 OES potluck dinner before the regular meeting at Lowell Masonic Center. Bring dish to pass & own table service. Familv invited to dinner at 6 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

SAT., DEC. 22: Past Matrons of Cyclamen Chapter #94 OES meet at Bill & Nancy Wood's for Christmas potluck. Husbands invited. Bring a dish to pass and Teddy Bear for the Hug-A-Bear program. Eat at 6 p.m. Social time before dinner; meat/beverage furnished.



LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR 897-5949

MON .: 8:30 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall TUES .: 8:30 a.m. Walk at **Noodland Mall.**

WED .: 12:30 Shop at Family Fare.

THURS .: 9 a.m. Walk/ Shop at the Malls: 9:30 a.m. Crafts; 1 p.m. Euchre.

FRI .: 8:30 a.m. Walk a Woodland Mall.

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On Saturday The Ledger asked youngsters at the Lowell Christmas Parade "What would you like Santa to bring you for Christmas?



Hunter Walker

A lot of Tonka Trucks.



Matthew Walker

A scientist kit.



Rvne Clarke

Toys and a rescue



Logan Phenix

A Tony Hawk skateboard and a pogo stick.



Courtney Phenix An American Girl



Nick MacDonald

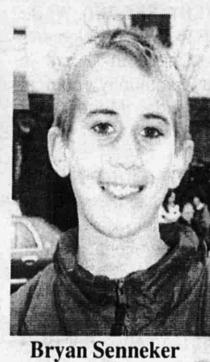
Harry Potter Leggos School and a train sta-



CD's (N' Sync).



A watch and a televi-



A four-wheeler.



A make-up set.



Zachary Diamond A racing T-shirt.



Jessie Steiner Sleeping Beauty Barbie and a Sleeping Beauty Costume.



A new toy.

Brianna Steiner

A Barbie Cinderella.





A telescope.





Brady Fox

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PRICES FOR

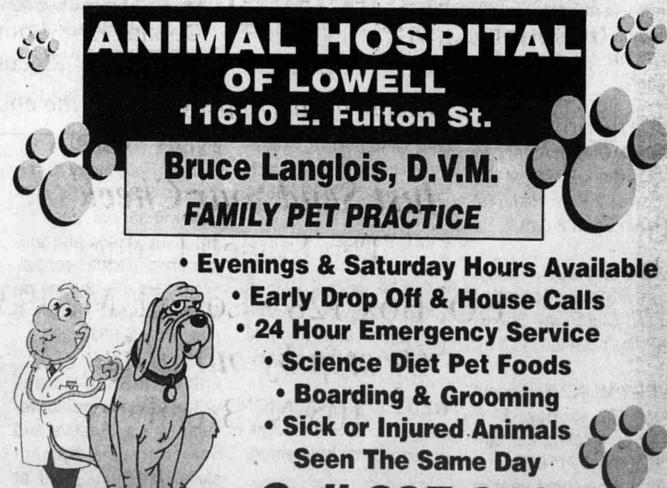
CLASSIFIED ADS?

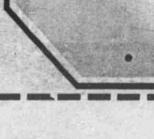
Place a classified ad in the Lowell Ledger for as little as

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897-9261

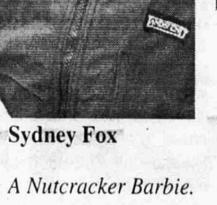
A tractor and tools (hammer, screw driver and nails).





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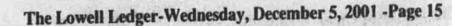
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Lowell basketball opponents will be well "guard" ed in 2001-02

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

First-year Lowell varsity basketball coach. Jeff McDonald provides a short. guarded answer when defining a successful 2001-02 campaign.

"Improvement, unselfish play and displaying character on the floor." McDonald explained. "A team could go 20-0 and not display any of those qualities."

The Red Arrows could display all of those qualities and still have a limited number of victories to show for. come the end of the season.

Lowell has a record of 8-53 over the last three years. "We've struggled and yet there are four seniors still here. That shows some charlike to build on." McDonald

said. "The boys need to believe in themselves, play hard and take care of the ball."

To do the latter, Lowell will need good guard play. "Guards, we have a lot of them." McDonald notes. He's not kidding. Lowell has the letter "G" after nine names on its roster.

While not big. McDonald does have athletes. "In terms of the ability to run the floor. we're quite athletic." McDonald said. "We're going to have to use that to dictate the tempo. We must control the tempo."

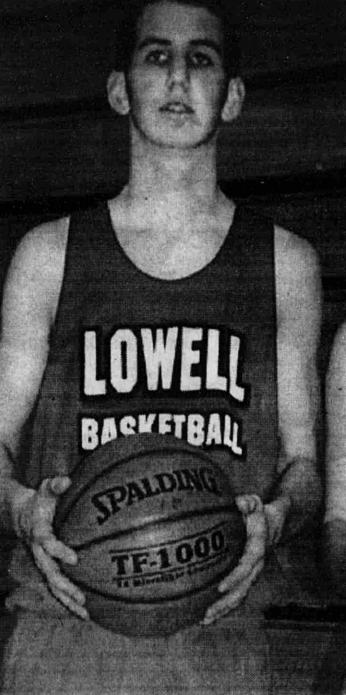
In its half-court offense. Lowell's colors may look more like Hoosier red with all the screens they will be setting. "We not only have to set screens so our shooters can get great shots, but all acter and is something I'd five players on the floor must

be able to read the screens," said McDonald.

On defense, Lowell will play a lot of man-to-man and help-side defense. "Great defense is a choice. You don't have to be quick, but you have to be in the right position and be able to anticipate. This is a must if we're going to eliminate giving up easy baskets," McDonald explains. "Defense also requires communication between players saying things that mean something. That comes with daily drilling."

Lowell sophomore, Sam Oberlin combines athleticism and great basketball skill. "He's a very good sophomore basketball player who has great instincts for the game. Sam can create his own shots and in doing so, he also cre-

Basketball, cont'd. pg. 17



Lowell varsity basketball tri- captains, pictured left to right, are: Sam Oberlin and Bill Harrison. Not pictured is Zach Beachum.

Experience will make a difference in Red Arrows' second year of varsity hockey

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

With one year under its belt, and nearly 60 percent of its roster returning. the Lowell High School varsity hockey team is better prepared for the grind of playing in the third tier of the probably a close second," Jacobus explains. O-K Rainbow Conference.

"Last year none of our players had varsity playing expe- the play of its defensemen. rience. This year eight of the 14 players have experience," said Lowell hockey coach, Paul Jacobus. "That will make a differ- defenseman last year, will play across from Austin Hunt. It is ence. The boys better understand what's necessary to be Hunt's first year playing varsity hockey, although he has prepared for a game."

Competing in the third tier of the O-K Rainbow will pit Lowell against teams it was competitive with last year. "We will still play some second tier teams and that will be challenging," said Jacobus.

In its conference, the Red Arrows will compete against Ottawa Hills, South Christian, Northview and Wayland. "South Christian is the favorite and West Ottawa is

The Red Arrows' efforts in 2001-02 will be anchored by

Chad Rau, an honorable mention all-conference travel hockey experience.

"They both can control the puck and move up ice and make passes to forwards," Jacobus said. "Their experience is going to make a huge difference."

returns at the forward position. enced, intelligent player.

impact player. Jeremy Stein returns for a second year in the net. "The experience he gained last year should really help this year,"

Jacobus said.

as its strength. "With a strong defense I think we will be able to hold off teams and create more scoring opportunities for our forwards," Jacobus concludes.

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LOWELL

Eric Austin, the team MVP and leading scorer last year, Playing alongside him will be Matt Horan, an experi-

Caledonia's Chris Rybicki returns. Jacobus calls him an

The Lowell coach points to his club's play at the blue line



Red Arrows still eyeing that elusive state championship

••• After three consecutive state runner-up finishes, Lowell hopes a fourth trip could be the crowning moment.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell can thank three consecutive state runner-up finishes for its pre-season number one ranking in wres-

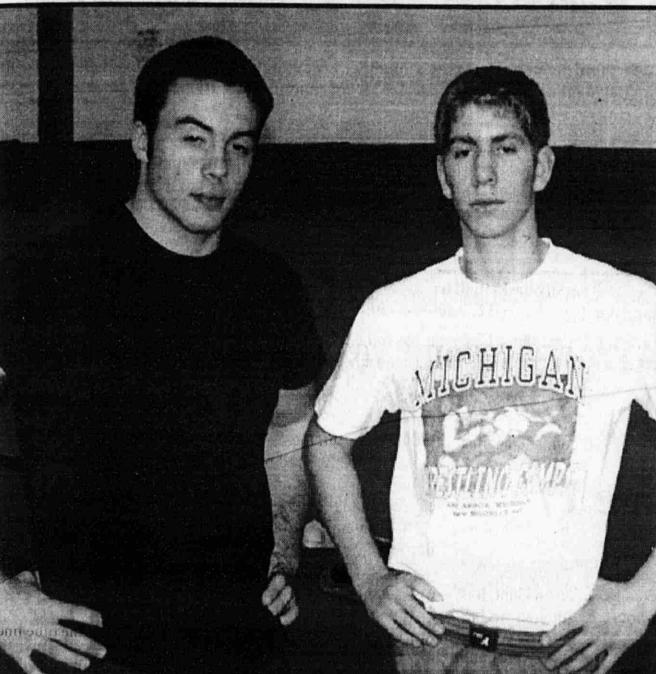
"We're not the best team in Division II right now, but

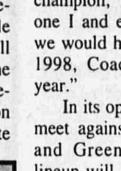
we plan on being there," said Lowell wrestling coach, Dave Strejc. "It's nice knowing our program is thought of so nicely.'

That nice program returns nine starters from a year ago, seven of which qualified for

the individual state tourna-

"We want to win and believe we can win a state title this year because of the small steps we've taken along the way. Many of these boys be- year. gan preparing for the season a week after last year's state





meet against Grand Haven lineup will start with freshman, Joe Mendez wrestling at 103 pounds; Mike Near- to 171 are Bobby Gingerich



tournament," Strejc said. Nine of the Red Arrow grapplers competed on Team Michigan over the summer. As for the three narrow misses in the state finals, "It's pursuing the path of excellence that is rewarding. Knowing that you gave your champion," Strejc said. "The one I and everyone wishes 1998, Coach Rivers' last

ing, 112; and Brandon Kinney, 119.

"Mendez is a Greco Roman state champion and a member of Team Michigan. Kinney has been relentless all summer in his pursuit of a state title," Strejc said.

Weight classes 125 all, win or lose you finish a through 140 will be filled by defending state champion, Ian DeRath at 125, Beau Wilder we would have won was in (130), Kevin Frazier (135) and Jim Kelley (140).

"DeRath is not concerned In its opening triangular with winning a state title again - he wants to take his skill to and Greenville, Streic's the next level," Streic explained

Filling the slots from 145

(145), Braton Fredline (152), Josh Vaught (160) and Mike Forward (171).

"People are going to see a different Mike Forward this year. Gingerich is a state runner-up," Strejc said.

The upper weights are solid with B.J. Frazier (seventh in the state) at 189 and Ben Fleet (fourth in the state) at 215; Ben Vaught (state qualifier) will wrestle heavyweight.

The Red Arrows are favored to win their second consecutive O-K White title. however, Northview and Forest Hills Central are expected to make things tough.

Red Arrow gymnasts look to build on best conference record in school history

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

in the O-K Rainbow. Lowell gymnastics team gymnast for us." covets a top-three finish in 2001-02.

fourth place with Kenowa Hills. nastics coach. "Then, I think, there are four percent."

clubs who fall in behind Holland." teams who will battle for second and third.

and a beyv of talented juniors.

freshmen and a walk-on sophomore and jun- back. ior, and the Red Arrows should be solid over the next couple of years.

Blough, along with Melissa Neubecker season recovering from injury and illness.

Both Blough and Seaman had off-season - floor exercise. knee surgery. Seaman underwent hers a little spring during softball season.

"Kim's recovery is further along. She's beginning to bust the tricks." DeHaan said. Coming off its school's best finish ever "When she's healthy, she'll be an all-around

Blough, this year's team captain, performed The Red Arrows were 5-2 and tied for in all four events a year ago. DeHaan, preferring caution, will only have Blough compete in "I think Holland, the defending league the uneven bars and balance beam exercises to 'champion. is the favorite." said Lowell's start the season. "We'll wait and see with the Michele DeHaan, in her eighth year as gym- floor and vault until we're sure Katie is 100

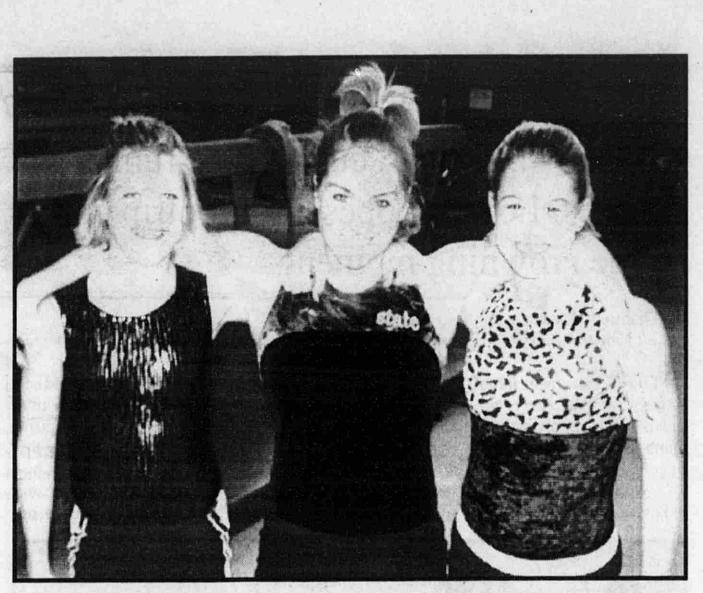
Leading the list of juniors is all-conference DeHaan points to Kenowa Hills. Rock- performer, Holly Plattner. She competed in the ford. Forest Hills Central and Lowell as the floor exercise at the state level as a sophomore.

"Holly has grown and matured. We've As for Lowell, it returns eight gymnasts changed her floor routine. Her new music refrom last year including senior. Katie Blough flects that maturity." DeHaan explained. "Most floor exercises have three passes - Holly's will Add to that mix a couple of talented have four with two of them coming back to

> Plattner will also throw a half twist onto the vault with a one-and-a-half tuck coming off.

Krystal White, who also competed in the and Kim Seaman, however, will begin the floor exercise at last year's state meet, has increased the difficulty of her passes in the

"Krystal, Holly and Melissa took lessons less than a year ago: Blough's came this past in the off-season. Krystal's technique, I think. has improved," DeHaan said.



Pictured above are last year's qualifiers in the state tournament: Holly Plattner, left, Krystal White, right, and the 2001-02 team captain Katie Blough (middle).

from a bout with mono, will be an all-around performer for Lowell in 2001.

Carmen Datema, a more confident gym- when she started," DeHaan said. nast, will compete on the vault, balance beam and floor exercise.

Kim Hoogewind (beam and floor) and four events. Carissa Sayer (bars and beam) will compete in two events.

her coach's eye. She's solid muscle and athletic. All she needs is confidence. "She will Jan. 5.

Swimming, cont'd... From Page 17

their strokes and settle in."

returnees, which include tri-captains. Tom Fick (sprint freestyle). Mark Kwast (sprint freestyle) and Mac Russell (diver).

(butterfly & freestyle). Dirk Timmer (backstroke). Chris Quist, Marc Scaturro, Paulo Sena, Mike Straub, Kyle come up with talent." Rozman (distant freestyle), Greg Metzner (breaststroke) and Scott Sprenger (freestyle & IM).

Anchoring this year's swim team will be a solid core of Cole (butterfly, freestyle and breaststroke) and John Mischler Westerhuis. (backstroke and freestyle).

Promising freshmen who should contribute are Adam Vanderjagt, Kyle VanderLaan, Luis Vera and Henry "There are a lot of new kids out at the same time, which I

Filling out the roster are Paco Calleja, Chris Cress, Phillip II think makes it easier for them to belong, feel a part of the Dragan, Jeff Jann, Cody Merklinger, Chris Michael, Joe Mull, steam," Heritage said. "Zeeland, by far, is the best team in the Also returning are Luke Baker (butterfly). Corey Scudder Jordan Nawrocki, Keith Osmun, Scott Perschbacher, Justin Jeague. Northview has a strong club and East always seems to

Red Arrow grapplers third at Michigan Duals

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

Some of the best wrestling teams and individual wrestlers in the state gathered in Bay City for the annual Michigan Duals Team wrestling tournament Saturday.

Lowell was among the elite for the third straight year. All the teams invited placed in the state tournament last year.

"It's one of the best tournaments ever to happen to Michigan," said Lowell wrestling coach, Dave Strejc. "It's the cream of the crop - a great way to see what it's all about early."

In its pool, Lowell opened the tourney with a 50-19 win over Tri County.

Highlighting the match was a dual between Ian DeRath, defending Division II state champion at 125 pounds, and Tri County's Ryan Froese, defending Division III state champion at 125. DeRath won the match 6-4 in overtime.

Lowell then defeated Dundee, a club which defeated the Red Arrows last year. This time Lowell held

the upperhand, 40-30. "It was nice to get past Dundee. They've had our number the last couple of years," Strejc said.

Defending Division I state champion, Davison was too strong in its 46-26 win over Lowell in the semifinals.

"Our boys got exposed to something completely new out there," Strejc explained with amazement. "That (Davison) is the toughest wrestling team in the state that I've ever seen. Their physicality is something we've not seen. There are a number of Division I college wrestlers on that club."

Lowell's only wins came from grapplers who either placed or qualified for the state individual tournament last year. Bobby Gingerich and Ben Fleet recorded pins while Brandon Kinney, DeRath and Beau Wilder all posted deci-

In the final match of the day, Lowell battled back from 13 points down to defeat Middleville 45-22. "Our first lead of the match came with five matches to go," Strejc said. "There were good matches all the way through.

Middleville had to defeat the state a year ago. Lapeer West to wrestle us."

jans, Lowell got huge wins was a regional qualifier last plained. "It was a good kick- because a wrestler took to the from Mike Nearing, 112 year. pounds, and Beau Wilder, 130 Red Arrows who finished the real season doesn't begin physical. Had the wins pounds.

Bowerman at 1:51 of the first and Ben Fleet. period with a reverse cradle.

the day undefeated were until February. December is counted, Lowell would have Nearing pinned Josh DeRath, Kinney, Gingerich just a time of development." defeated Grand Haven 49-17

"Our kids wrestled well. Bowerman finished fourth in The rookies got exposed to a

CITY OF LOWELL **PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING OF BOARD OF REVIEW** The Lowell City Board of Review will meet to correct the various Assessment Rolls for 2001 at City Hall, 301 E. Main St., Lowell, Michigan on: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2001 10:00 - 11:00 A.M. YEA Michael Blough, Mayor James Marfia, Assessor



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Neubecker, still regaining her strength compete in all four exercises," DeHaan said. Dickerman has come up through DeHaan's summer gymnastics program. "She was six

Brianna Kinney has gymnastics in her background from Haslett. She will help Lowell in all

Sophomore, Ashley Simon and junior, Nicole Gillikin fill out the roster as they com-Jenna Dickerman, a freshman, has caught pete at the varsity level for the first time.

Lowell opens its season at East Lansing on

new level of wrestling. Some Earlier in the week, Low-Wilder decisioned Pat stepped up, others need to go ell had to forfeit matches to In the match with the Tro- McKeown 13-5. McKeown back to work," Strejc ex- Grand Haven and Greenville off to our season. We all know mat without having had a and Greenville 60-15.

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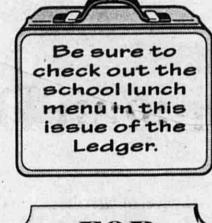
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